



Northwest Territories Environment and Natural Resources

APR 3 2 11

Judith Wright-Bird, Chairperson
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board
BOX 235
FORT GOOD HOPE NT X0E 0H0

Sahtu Land Use Plan (SLUP)

In response to the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board's (Board) Public Hearing notification (May 3-5, 2011 in Norman Wells), the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) has registered as a participant and will be making a presentation at the Public Hearing.

The GNWT has provided its comments on Draft 3 to the Board in writing and in face to face meetings with Board staff. The GNWT wants to emphasise it stands behind the comments it submitted on October 22, 2010 and February 25, 2011 and those clarified in follow-up meetings. Under separate cover, we will be providing the Board, based on its request of March 23, 2011, a response to its question with respect to the fettering of discretion of those bound to implement the SLUP.

The GNWT understands your response to its comments will come in the form of changes made in a Draft 4 of the SLUP which the Board intends to submit as a final version to GNWT, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated (SSI) for their consideration for approval. In light of the numerous comments, the complexity of the issues and concerns raised with Draft 3 from SSI, INAC, the GNWT and others, we recommend the Board consider releasing another draft of the SLUP for review by the approving parties before submitting a final version for their consideration for approval.

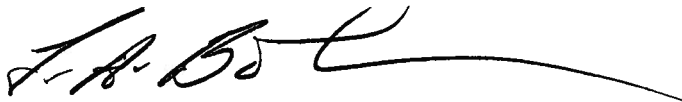
The GNWT would like to acknowledge that Board staff have agreed to meet with the GNWT on April 26, 2011. We look forward to having a productive discussion with the Board staff on these complex issues and we hope that we can address our respective interests.

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The GNWT remains committed to concluding a SLUP that meets the interests of all parties through a collaborative effort as we move through the rolling drafts of the SLUP. Similarly, after the Hearing, should additional clarification be required, the GNWT is available to meet at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. A. Bohnet", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary A. Bohnet