



Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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August 28, 2012

Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Chairperson
Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated
PO Box 155
Deline, NT
X0E 0G0

RE: Response to Request to Postpone the September 6-7 Tri-Partite Meeting

Dear Ethel:

The SLUPB would like to acknowledge your request to reschedule the Tri-Partite Meeting on the Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan. As we understand, Mr. John Donihee has a scheduling conflict and cannot attend on September 6-7. The SLUPB has valued Mr. Donihee's participation and input in the Land Use Planning process. However at this late date and in the interest of completing the Plan in a timely manner the SLUPB has decided to keep the meeting as scheduled on September 6-7. The Board has already postponed the meeting once at the Parties' request and now must proceed with completing the Plan.

We have received SSI's written comments on the SLUPB Discussion Document. They, along with SSI's previous contributions, provide valuable guidance as to SSI's interests, which will guide the Board in writing the Final Draft Plan. While it is unfortunate that Mr. Donihee will be unable to participate, the Board strongly urges SSI and the Districts to participate and speak to their interests directly at this meeting. The Board will be sensitive to the fact that SSI is participating without its technical support and will manage discussions to ensure a fair process. All parties share the goal of having effective, informed discussions and we will work through the issues collaboratively.

The Board is in the process of reviewing the Parties' comments. Should the board have any technical questions on SSI's submission, with your permission, we will follow-up directly with Mr. Donihee before next week's meeting to get a clear and accurate understanding. The Board is also open to structuring the agenda in a way that is helpful to SSI to seek guidance during the meeting (e.g. provide longer breaks or schedule certain issues first to allow SSI to seek guidance via teleconference and revisit issues the next morning). The Board will consider any other options that SSI may propose to ensure a fair process.

The Board feels that we can continue to meet and have an informative discussion session that will allow the parties to share their views and positions.

Please contact me directly if you have any additional questions.

Respectfully,

Heather Bourassa, Chair
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

**CC Distribution List:**

Edwin Erutse, President	K'asho Got'ine District Land Corporation
Todd McCauley, President	Tulita District Land Corporation
Gina Dolphus, President	Deline District Land Corporation
Ernie Campbell, Deputy Minister	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
Kathryn Bruce, Regional Director General	Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada
Larry Wallace, Chairperson	Sahtu Land & Water Board
Willard Hagen, Chairperson	Mackenzie Valley Land & Water Board