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SAHTU LAND USE PLANNING BOARD
PUBLIC HEARING
RE: DRAFT 3 OF THE PLAN

Panel Members:

Judith Wright-Bird	Chairperson
Danny Bayha	Co-Chairperson
Stephen Kakfwi	Member
Colin Bayha	Member
Bob Overold	Member

HELD IN:

Norman Wells, NWT
May 5th, 2011
Day 3 of 3

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1 --- Upon commencing at 9:05 a.m.

2

3 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Good morning, good
4 morning. Yeah. We're going to go into our breakout
5 groups again for a few minutes to get people their
6 coffees and settle in a bit. And the breakout groups, if
7 you can remember which group you are in and please go
8 back into that so we can get out. Probably an hour and
9 half or so into it, and then they'll check, see how
10 things are going. Then it'll be good. So if you can
11 start to stroll back into your groups, that'll be great.
12 Thank you.

13

14 --- Upon recessing at 9:06 a.m.

15 --- Upon resuming at 10:58 a.m.

16

17 THE CHAIRPERSON: We'd like to reconvene.
18 We'd just like to take a poll to see who's leaving early
19 this afternoon so that we can start to, you know, have
20 those people make closing presentations to the Board. So
21 if you are leaving, if you can let us -- the staff know,
22 and then we can have you start with the closing
23 presentations when we're ready for that this afternoon.

24 With that, we'll have the groups start to
25 report back to the plenary session.

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 MS. JOANNE BARNABY: Okay. We're going
4 to start hearing back from the breakout groups. I guess
5 we'll start with number 1. Crystal and Raymond, where
6 are you? There's Crystal, and there's Raymond. Here you
7 go.

8 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Good morning,
9 everybody. Some of the leadership are leaving to -- they
10 have other commitments, so some of -- most of the Deline
11 leadership took off, so just to let you know, and it was
12 to -- hopefully at another day we'll get something in
13 place here. So hopefully. I'm just crossing my finger
14 here, so just to let you know, like I said, the
15 leadership are -- from Deline left.

16

17 TOPIC: REVISION FOR SELECT CONFORMITY REQUIREMENTS AND
18 IMPLEMENTATION

19

20 PRESENTATION BY GROUP 1:

21 MS. CRYSTAL THOMAS: Okay. I'm just
22 going to go in order here, so topic 1, which is TK and
23 community engagement. Some ideas we had were, the
24 proponent must be responsible for checking on what is
25 available in regards to documented TK; paying for the TK

1 research if the community determines that it is
2 necessary; need an agreement between the community and
3 the proponent addressing confidentiality and intellectual
4 property. So we were -- we were talking about if that
5 could be incorporated into the Plan or not possibly.

6 Land corporations should -- this is just
7 an idea we had. Land corporations should issue a letter
8 verifying proper use of TK and the community engagement
9 to the Land and Water Board so we know that it's been
10 done properly. Consider using consistent guidelines,
11 currently under development by the Land and Water Board.
12 So that's all for topic 1.

13 Topic 2, which is community benefits, we
14 talked about fair sharing of the benefits of resource
15 development and exploration, and we agreed that there
16 should be some sort of public interest test which still
17 needs further work. And sort of as a parking lot issue
18 here, we have, for the public interest test, how is it
19 defined and who does it.

20 And then another parking lot issue we have
21 is to encourage a closer relationship between SSI and the
22 Sahtu Land and Water Board. Also, the land use plan
23 should provide educational value to industry and all
24 parties to understand this is how we do business up here.
25 So that's all we have for community benefits.

1 Topic 3, which was water, we have water is
2 life. And we also have there should be no contamination
3 of water within the region allowed, which corresponds to
4 CR number 6. We have the integrity of the water system
5 must be respected, including rain and groundwater, and a
6 link to the water stewardship strategy.

7 For special management zones, topic 4, we
8 have: We need more specific measurement criteria, and we
9 have -- or more specific measurement criteria should be
10 added. Consider the Gwich'in model. The spirit and
11 intent must be clear up in front. We also have, for
12 special management zones, identify conditions for each
13 value, which is also a Gwich'in example.

14 And then some parking lot issues, we're
15 kind of -- this is community benefits, but we've got a
16 lot of parking lot issues here: Find ways to encourage
17 industry to support the development of consulting
18 services to do the pre-application or front-end work.
19 And another parking lot issue: Explore ways to
20 strengthen the community benefits through IBAs or other
21 agreements, and including a serious commitment to
22 capacity building.

23 Another parking lot issue: Sahtu lands
24 and other settlement areas, does the Land Use Plan apply?
25 And the last parking lot issue is: Some trans-boundary

1 issues may need to be addressed in the Land Use Plan.

2 Okay. Now topic 5 for the polluter pays:
3 We need more information to establish guidelines and a
4 pay scale for a security deposit requirement on Crown
5 lands and settlement lands. The onus is on the proponent
6 to ensure conformity.

7 And a few more parking lot issues: There
8 is a gap in the regulatory process. Monitoring needs to
9 be strengthened, and inspection and enforcement is a
10 problem. Need to increase resources to carry out legal
11 responsibility. Commun -- commun -- cumulative impacts
12 is a major gap.

13 So that's our whole presentation.

14

15 PRESENTATION BY GROUP 2:

16 MS. LORIEN NESBITT: Hi. Lorien Nesbitt
17 with group 2.

18 For our first question, CR 2 around
19 community engagement and traditional knowledge, we were
20 generally in agreement that most projects do require
21 face-to-face meetings, and that this is a really good way
22 for the wider community to be able to meet with a
23 proponent and not just community leaders.

24 However, there was some concern about very
25 low-level activities or certain kinds of licences that

1 could be covered by the Land Use Plan that would then
2 require face-to-face meetings. So this really depends on
3 what the Land Use Plan applies to, and whether in the
4 future it would apply to licences such as scientific
5 research licences.

6 Anyway, so basically, we -- we didn't
7 really come to a resolution of this question, but we're
8 considering that there may be some activities that could
9 be excluded from face-to-face meetings and collecting
10 traditional knowledge, although it's very important in
11 most cases.

12 For question 2, community benefits, it's
13 important that the proponent demonstrate that the
14 communities will receive a benefit, and that it's
15 probably a good idea to include some sort of benefit test
16 to ensure that the benefit is not just a minimum possible
17 benefit. Included in these benefits could be things such
18 as training. So benefits should not simply be economic,
19 but should also include some investment in capacity
20 building in the community.

21 Question 3 was about conformity
22 requirements 5 and 6 and protecting water resources,
23 watersheds and drinking water. We agreed that what's
24 important is that there is clean water and enough water,
25 and it's important that the water that flows into special

1 management zones, conservation zones and proposed
2 conservation initiatives is protected so that that water
3 is not degraded by outside activities. However, we did
4 agree that there are some activities, such as building
5 ice roads or winter roads, that could be affected by
6 these conformity requirements.

7 We were particularly concerned that
8 special lakes with important fish habitat are protected,
9 and that use of water be monitored closely, and this
10 should include the involvement of community monitors.

11 So question 4, special management zones:
12 We generally agreed that the wording for this CR was --
13 was fine. We agree with the intent of the CR, and what's
14 important is that those values identified in the Plan
15 that apply to each special management zone be
16 complemented by the traditional knowledge research done
17 according to CR 2 to update the values for the zone that
18 are important for the community.

19 Once again, monitoring is -- is very
20 important, and the CR 15 monitoring requirement is a
21 really important part of the Plan. And we would like
22 monitoring information to be distributed both to relevant
23 community organizations, and also to government, because
24 government sometimes doesn't receive monitoring
25 information that could be really useful to them and to

1 the wider public.

2 Question 5, the polluter pays principle or
3 the collection of security: We supported collecting
4 security regardless of the amount, so taking out the
5 fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) minimum, and that it's
6 important to ensure that the security collected is
7 sufficient to cover the full cost of reclamation and
8 post-closure activities such as mid- to long-term
9 monitoring. There is some concern that, in the past,
10 security collected has not been enough to cover the full
11 cost of closure and reclamation.

12 Now we had a -- an informative
13 presentation from INAC on collecting -- on calculating
14 and collecting securities, and how they're used for
15 reclamation at the end of a project. And we decided that
16 it was important that security can apply to reclamation
17 and closure for both land and water activities and
18 impacts. It's important that the land and the water not
19 be separated from one another, and that we understand
20 that environmental impacts will -- or that the land and
21 the water are linked, and that environmental impacts will
22 always affect both land and water.

23 That is all.

24 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: I've got a question,
25 presenter. It probably could go to the first group, too.

1 In your discussion on special management zone and CR 14,
2 was there any discussion about the similar CR for Great
3 Bear Lake watershed, and whether or not, you know, one
4 could apply to both or whatever?

5 MS. LORIEN NESBITT: Our group did not
6 discuss CR 16 and Great Bear Lake special management
7 zone. I've been involved in the discussions between
8 Deline and the Land Use Planning Board, and I know that
9 Deline does not feel that CR 14 and 16 are the same, but
10 if people are happy with CR 14 for their special
11 management zones, and they were in our group, then that
12 seems to be sufficient.

13 THE CHAIRPERSON: Is there any other
14 questions for group 1 or 2?

15

16 (BRIEF PAUSE)

17

18 THE CHAIRPERSON: If not, we'll carry on
19 with group 4. There was a request for group 3 to go
20 last, so we'll move on with group 4.

21

22 PRESENTATION BY GROUP 4:

23 MS. HEIDI WIEBE: I have to go up here so
24 I can read my charts. So I had the technical working
25 group, and we covered a lot of ground, so I'm going to

1 try to summarize it. You probably can't see the flip
2 chart, some of you, so I'll do my best.

3 The first question we discussed was on
4 traditional knowledge and consultation, or community
5 engagement. The point was made that traditional
6 knowledge is not just about the environment. There was a
7 lot of discussion for the need for a regional policy on
8 traditional knowledge. That, I think, was an overriding
9 concern, that there is not that direction right now for
10 the region.

11 There was discussion that it needs to be
12 hierarchical, if I can use that word, that there should
13 be involvement and direction at the SSI regional level,
14 the district level, and the community level to respect
15 all the differences between those, but in one (1) policy.

16 There was discussion that you need this
17 policy in place before we can set the requirement to
18 follow it, and that the collection and use of traditional
19 knowledge is already legally required. In that sense,
20 does the Plan add value?

21 There was questions, quite a bit of
22 discussion about the intellectual
23 property/confidentiality issues around traditional
24 knowledge, and whether or not it's the Plan's job to
25 resolve these issues.

1 There was a suggestion for the Plan to
2 acknowledge the existing requirements, and -- and perhaps
3 that was the extent of what the Plan might do on that.

4 One (1) of the, I think, conclusions or
5 concluding statements on the discussion was that the Plan
6 could talk about the use of TK as a principle, so in the
7 overriding principles, and refer to the legislation, but
8 at the end, there was still felt that there's still a
9 need for a conformity requirement, and that need was to
10 speak to non-MV -- MVRMA authorizations. So the MVRMA
11 requires the collection and use of traditional knowledge
12 for land use permits and water licences, but there's no
13 overriding direction for other authorizations outside of
14 that system.

15 There was linkages made that the Plan
16 talks about both community engagement and traditional
17 knowledge in existing actions 3 and 9, and that could be
18 made clearer in the Plan.

19 And there was more discussion about how
20 wording could be put in an implementation plan as opposed
21 to in the conformity requirement itself. So a suggestion
22 came up earlier to delete the clause "before land use is
23 authorized, regulators shall ensure," that the CR could
24 just speak to the condition and leave that type of
25 direction to an implementation plan.

1 (BRIEF PAUSE)

2

3 MS. HEIDI WIEBE: On the question of
4 community benefits, we had a very short discussion,
5 because that's where we ended yesterday. Some felt that
6 the costs in some cases for some development may outweigh
7 benefits. It was more of a statement or observation,
8 that money is not the most important thing for
9 communities in all cases.

10 There was general consensus, I think, that
11 it's the onus of the developers or the proponent to
12 demonstrate that there are benefits to the community.
13 Again, on this one, a recommendation for us to delete the
14 introductory wording and just state what the condition
15 is.

16 We had a lot of discussion in our group
17 around existing benefits requirements, that the claim
18 does not require something called an access or -- and
19 benefits agreement. There are access agreement
20 requirements, there are benefits requirements in other
21 parts of legislation, and some felt this duplicates
22 existing processes.

23 There was discussion again about -- in
24 terms of how to phrase an overall conformity requirement,
25 that we would lay out the respective responsibilities of

1 applicants and -- and regulators.

2 This morning, we refocused our priorities
3 and spent the most -- the bulk of our time talking about
4 the -- the structural elements of conformity requirements
5 in a -- in a general way, basically what would a -- a
6 good -- an ideal CR look like?

7 We discussed the timing issues first, and
8 that there's two (2) components to this, and we need
9 front-end clarity, and that is, in checking an
10 application, we need to know easily and simply, yes or
11 no, whether an -- an application or an activity conforms.
12 There's also a back-end timing issue, and that is
13 ensuring that the activities conform throughout the
14 entire life of the project, and that it's not just an
15 application check.

16 And that moved us into discussion of
17 enforcement, that there's different criteria or methods
18 of enforcement, depending on land ownership, and that any
19 of these methods need legal teeth. There must be a way
20 to implement the conformity requirement.

21 Again, we talked about the roles, about
22 laying out separate roles for the applicant and the
23 regulator in implementing and following through on these
24 CRs. It's the applicant's role to demonstrate
25 compliance; it's the regulator's role to satisfy itself

1 that the activity is in conformity with the Plan.

2 We had a broad discussion about what it
3 means to be broad-based -- or goal-based, sorry,
4 conformity requirements. We opened up with a discussion
5 that there was an initiative I think years ago to move to
6 a more goal-based regulation, which is used by the
7 National Energy Board, and that that was rejected in the
8 north for various reasons, and we didn't get into that;
9 that goal-based regulation is difficult to implement.

10 The overriding concern is to make sure
11 that the conformity requirements that are pushing or
12 advancing community values are actually carried out and
13 implemented, so they need to be clear. The intent is to
14 reduce the discretion of regulators by telling them what
15 they should and should not do in certain instances, and
16 this is especially true for non-co-management boards, so
17 regulators outside the co-management system.

18 Big -- we had some clarification that,
19 when asking for goal-based terms, they're looking for
20 goal-based statements and policies in the Plan, not the
21 CRs itself, which is a new -- a new thing for us
22 certainly.

23 To give the whole discussion a little
24 foundation, we turned to the concept of water and how the
25 Plan might deal with water so we could ground this

1 discussion. One (1) participant felt that the Plan
2 should at least support the minimum standards out there
3 and enshrine those. Others felt that discussion or
4 decisions on -- on how to protect water should be made on
5 a case-by-case basis, because it relies on information
6 coming in through the process before and after data. It
7 was felt that this is looked after by other boards, and
8 that CR 5 as written is talking more about cumulative
9 effects.

10 As proposed, it is difficult for the Land
11 and Water Board to act and implement on that. So getting
12 back to the 'we must be able to implement these,' there
13 are issues with that. It was felt that the conformity
14 requirements should supplement legislation, that they're
15 -- they're not just there to repeat legislation, but they
16 should add value, and there was the comment made again
17 that, you know, while we want them to be clear, there's
18 room for both general and specific CRs in the Plan.

19 We got back again to this concept, and
20 someone called it a meta CR, so information about the CR.
21 Rather than putting introductory language into a
22 conformity requirement, we would leave that to a
23 description of conformity requirements, say it once in
24 the Plan, again that applicants would -- would carry the
25 onus for demonstrating compliance, and that the regulator

1 developer, and we talked about different ways of making
2 developer commitments legally binding, but some of our
3 community participants felt that that was -- it doesn't
4 help the trust issue, because now it's -- it's the
5 developer monitoring itself.

6 So it came back to, again, strengthening
7 the need for community monitoring in the Plan. We had a
8 discussion that the -- there's a current recommendation
9 that was previously a conformity requirement, and perhaps
10 that recommendation should go back to a conformity
11 requirement that requires the hiring of monitors on all
12 applications.

13 It was felt that the -- the phrase
14 "community monitor" is not strong enough, that they need
15 more authority and involvement in the process. It's not
16 enough for a community member to be hired to look in on a
17 project if they don't have the background on the
18 application of that project and all the information they
19 need to carry out their duties effectively. They're
20 talking more of an ongoing, staffed organization within a
21 community that would have a monitoring mandate. That
22 monitor needs independence and -- and funding.

23 Regulators -- sorry. They felt it was
24 important for regulators to work with communities on
25 this, and we pointed to the current action in the Plan

1 that talks about the need for a community government
2 strategy on monitoring.

3 There was a -- it was felt that they
4 should be tied into the CIMP program, the Cumulative
5 Impact Monitoring Program, and clarification that
6 monitoring is more than observation. It's a comparison
7 against actual standards, where the activity or the
8 resources are in relation to the standards, and that
9 monitoring builds community trust through communications
10 and open discussion.

11 We then turned, for the last twenty (20)
12 minutes or so, to discussion of special management zones.
13 There was recognition that each zone is unique, and some
14 of them, such as those in the Great Bear Lake watershed,
15 have their own unique conformity requirements right now,
16 that these are areas in which a higher importance is
17 attached, and -- and that that should be maintained.

18 In looking at the wording of CR 14, our
19 participants felt it would be just much clearer if we
20 just said that these -- these zones -- or

21 "regulators or applicants shall protect
22 the values of the zones as defined in
23 the Plan,"

24 rather than saying

25 "assess and mitigate."

1 It was felt that those words copy the
2 regulatory system too much, and don't really say what --
3 what the intent is. So the intent is to protect the
4 values, and it should just say that.

5 CR 15 on monitoring would remain intact,
6 and CR 16, the Great Bear Lake watershed counterpart
7 would not change either.

8 In the last two (2) or three (3) minutes,
9 we got into the setback discussion, but this wasn't a
10 priority for us. We discussed more the approach that's
11 been recommended, but we didn't really get into any final
12 changes.

13 We did have a discussion on the idea of
14 having maybe a split buffer around archaeological sites,
15 historic sites and burial sites. The Board has received
16 many comments suggesting that 500 metres is too much for
17 all of those sites, but may be appropriate for burial
18 sites.

19 In our group, it was still felt that 500
20 metres could be too much, and there might be reasons why
21 people can't comply with that. For instance, if it would
22 push them over the -- over a cliff I think was one (1)
23 suggestion, obviously, you'd have to change that; that
24 the regulations already speak to this in the current
25 process is for 150 metres, and this might be one (1) area

1 where it's not appropriate to have numbers in the Plan,
2 and maybe you'd look at more of a -- a guiding principle
3 or goal. But we did not finish that discussion, and we
4 sort of broke at that point.

5 So that would be the results of group 4.
6 Thank you.

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: Is there any comments
8 on group 4's presentation? If not, we'll continue with
9 group 3.

10

11 PRESENTATION BY GROUP 3:

12 MS. DEBORAH SIMMONS: Dyanne Doctor had
13 kindly agreed to present on behalf of our group, but
14 unfortunately had to go to the airport, so I'm the back-
15 up person.

16 And the approach that our group took to
17 the discussion was not exactly in the order of the way
18 the questions were numbered. We -- knowing that we had a
19 short time before the end of the day yesterday -- knowing
20 that we had a short time before the end of the day
21 yesterday, we decided to identify what were the most
22 important issues that people really wanted to make sure
23 they covered well in our group, and right off the bat
24 there was a consensus that water was -- and issues
25 related to water were critical to everyone.

1 And talking about the issues around
2 conformity requirements related to water led the group to
3 kind of address a number of the other issues that were of
4 concern, or that were talked about in our previous
5 discussions over the last couple of days.

6 So people were very, very concerned to
7 preserve their drinking water, and they were concerned
8 that perhaps the existing guidelines that are in place
9 for ensuring that there are no negative impacts of
10 development on water may not be good enough, may not be a
11 high enough standard, and they -- there was also a major
12 concern around enforcement and monitoring of any kind of
13 confirmative requirements that might be in place.

14 So, one (1) of the possible action items
15 or recommendations that might come out of this -- so that
16 moves into a non sort of slightly off the agenda of the
17 small group session. But the -- the group decided that
18 they would like to suggest that there be a couple of
19 actions that could be part of a process after the land
20 use plan is in place toward another -- the five (5) year
21 review. And that would be that there would be an
22 assessment of standards that would be appropriate for the
23 Sahtu region when it comes to water issues.

24 And people had a lot of experience with
25 accidents and their sense that there is already

1 contamination in their area, so, they really had some
2 strong concerns that these issues be addressed in the
3 Land Use Plan as much as possible.

4 And they touched -- through this
5 discussion of this topic, they also touched on issues
6 related to the participation engagement of the
7 communities, so I'll talk a little bit more about this.
8 But, for example, monitoring and enforcement, they really
9 felt strongly that communities need to be playing a
10 leading role in this.

11 So overall, there was a sense that the
12 Land Use Plan needs to enhance the existing standards
13 specifically with respect to water but also more broadly
14 when it comes to generally the conformity requirements.

15 There were -- they also wanted to see a
16 little more emphasis on the role of the developer in
17 proving that their activity will conform. There was a
18 bit of a tension between -- there were some discussion
19 about specific -- specific standards that could be
20 prescribed and whether there should be a more goal-
21 oriented approach to understanding the need to maintain
22 water quality, water levels, and water flow.

23 So there was a sense that if -- if there
24 was some kind of follow-up after the Land Use Plan is in
25 place, it would be good to be able to have a more

1 detailed development of those standards as mentioned
2 before.

3 So the group also talked a lot about the
4 importance of accountability from developers and -- and a
5 front-end payment of security deposits. They felt that
6 the five (5) -- fifty thousand dollar (\$50,000) threshold
7 should be eliminated from the Land Use Plan. That no
8 matter how small the impact that -- that -- that there
9 should be a deposit at the front end both to cover
10 possible -- just planned remediation requirements but
11 also potential accidents. People were really concerned
12 about accidents that happen.

13 Repeatedly, the group talked about their
14 concerns that -- and this was not one (1) of the
15 questions exactly but it came up over and over again when
16 talking about the possible impacts on the land, that the
17 Land Use Plan should require people with existing rights,
18 developers with existing rights, to conform with the Plan
19 as soon as possible after it's in place.

20 And somebody really wanted to make sure
21 that the group, as a whole, heard the message, that the
22 spirit and intent of the Plan needs to be fulfilled by
23 all parties.

24 As -- in talking about water, the issue of
25 traditional knowledge and community engagement came up

1 and people talked at great length about how significant
2 it is for them and how important it is that communities
3 know what's happening on the land and have input,
4 meaningful input, into what's happening on the land by
5 providing their knowledge while at the same time
6 maintaining ownership of their knowledge.

7 And there was some detail about the -- the
8 nature of traditional knowledge and how it makes sense to
9 work with traditional knowledge in these kinds of
10 processes. That there -- that there's no blanket
11 approach that -- and that often traditional knowledge
12 policy is overly general so that the specific knowledge
13 holders are not properly integrated into the processes.

14 So, they talked about possible action --
15 action items for follow-up, again, toward a revised Land
16 Use Plan and especially toward the development of
17 guidelines and some kind of baseline from communities
18 that could give a clearer sense of how the -- how
19 developers might work with communities well in applying
20 traditional knowledge in their plans and their decisions
21 and applications.

22 So, people felt that inclusion of this
23 traditional knowledge and community engagement clause in
24 the Land Use Plan is really important in that it shows
25 how -- how important this is as a stake for the

1 communities in the land as stewards of the land. And
2 they felt, though, at the same time that there needs to
3 be a good balance between traditional knowledge and
4 science.

5 So does anybody want to add anything to
6 that one from our group? Okay.

7 Through each of the themes there was also
8 mention and discussion about the fact that people feel
9 from the communities that they do not necessarily benefit
10 adequately from existing development and there needs to
11 be an emphasis in the Land Use Plan on community
12 benefits. They don't feel that the existing processes
13 have been adequate and inclusion of conformity
14 requirements like traditional knowledge and community
15 engagement and like benefits in the Land Use Plan will
16 apply to non-permitted activities. And so that's why
17 they felt it was really, really important. So, there was
18 agreement with some of the points that were made by other
19 groups on that front.

20 And our group went into so much detail on
21 these three (3) items that they -- or four (4) items, I
22 mean, that we didn't get a chance to talk about special
23 management. So -- so we were listening with interest to
24 other groups' contributions on that.

25 Does anybody from my group want to add or

1 correct me on any of these things? Any questions?

2 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: I just had a
3 question, Debbie. The -- earlier, you mentioned the
4 issue between the five (5) year review that -- what was
5 the sense of the group about what that would take between
6 the five (5) years' review or within five (5) years,
7 about improvement?

8 What did they have -- what kind of --
9 like, my thought like is that a continuous thing between
10 the five (5) years that a working group be struck and
11 work out towards guidelines or improvement in -- in the
12 Plan as a whole? Would that be a continuous thing or
13 would they just strike it the day of review for the
14 Plan?

15 So I just thought if there was a sense
16 from the group what they thought might be an approach.
17 Thank you.

18 MS. DEBORAH SIMMONS: I guess the one (1)
19 with the traditional knowledge and community engagement
20 theme, there was a feeling that there should be a
21 guidelines approach taken so that people have a much more
22 detailed understanding of the specific kind of protocols
23 and approaches that are required by each of the
24 communities. And if there's a guidelines approach, I
25 would assume that that could be implemented in between

1 Lake, one of my friends, Joe Bishcott (phonetic), lives
2 there. For example, if we decided to drill a well there
3 it's best you take that person that lives there because
4 you'll no -- notice a change other than the -- the people
5 that do the site visits they never lived the land.
6 You're going to see the -- the difference that he'll --
7 they'll notice the difference better than the people that
8 do the site visits. Thank you.

9 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, that makes a
10 lot of sense. A hands-on approach is a lot better than
11 just having something written I think and so hands-on is
12 -- is a good suggestion. Thank you.

13 Any more questions or maybe do you want to
14 add Debbie's group, that Group 4?

15 MS. DEBORAH SIMMONS: Just one (1) thing
16 to point out is that the -- this principle of enhancing
17 the existing standards that are in place, I think people
18 were referring in part to this -- the idea of special
19 management zones. So implicit within that is a real
20 support I think for the kinds of recommendations that the
21 Land Use Planning Board has for those two (2) conformity
22 requirements there, 14 and 15, so.

23

24

(BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 THE CHAIRPERSON: Any other comments?
2 George...?

3 MR. GEORGE BARNABY: Yeah, I was looking
4 at the need for baseline data and I agree with that
5 because our communities always want the land to be
6 brought back to the way it was before. And so I think
7 that's a real important part of the -- the monitoring
8 process that's to -- to -- to collect that data and then
9 to use it in the -- in the monitoring and cleanup later
10 on.

11 So the communities are not against having
12 stuff going on but they want to have it done right and to
13 have no damages left behind. That's good.

14 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Is there
15 anybody else? Just a -- a note -- oh sorry, Elder Leon
16 Andrew. Thank you.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 ELDER LEON ANDREW: Thank you very much.
21 My question more to Heidi. You talked about TK and it's
22 kind of duplication to land, the claim, northern
23 benefits. I'm just wondering if you can tell me a little
24 more what -- what exactly do you mean?

25 MS. HEIDI WIEBE: Thank you. The

1 Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act does currently
2 require, and the Sahtu Land and Water Board specifically
3 certainly requires and looks for traditional knowledge to
4 be used and considered in applications. So some in our
5 group felt that the Plan is not requiring anything new
6 over and above those existing requirements.

7 And I'd perhaps maybe open it up to some
8 of our group members if -- if they want to add anything
9 to that response. Thanks.

10 ELDER LEON ANDREW: Just to follow up.
11 Yeah, well, I understand that but somehow you said it's
12 duplicating the northern benefit on the -- on the claim,
13 so I'm just wondering how you interpret that, what
14 exactly you mean.

15 MR. HEIDI WIEBE: Sorry, okay. On the --
16 the community benefits issue, my understanding of what
17 people were saying is that I think Indian and Northern
18 Affairs requires benefits plans for oil and gas
19 licensing.

20 Under the claim if there's land use on
21 settlement lands then the communities -- or rather, the
22 district would negotiate an access agreement. That is a
23 requirement of the claim, and many people or some
24 participants view the CR 3 in the Land Use Plan, which
25 requires that communities benefit, as duplicating the

1 existing requirements which are those benefits plans and
2 the access agreements required under the claim. Thanks.

3 ELDER LEON ANDREW: Thank you very much.

4 MS. HEIDI WIEBE: Just a -- I guess a
5 clarification then. This is not certainly the Board's
6 position. This is reporting back on members of our
7 group. So these are expressions of those who were
8 involved in that working group.

9 ELDER LEON ANDREW: Thank you.

10 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you again.

11 Again, for our -- for our recorder, we need to state our
12 name before we speak. Thank you.

13 MR. TOM NESBITT: I'm Tom Nesbitt. Just
14 a wee bit of clarification on what Heidi said there in
15 response to this gentleman, who I haven't had the
16 pleasure to meet yet. We will, I hope.

17 Heidi pointed out that the Mackenzie
18 Valley Resource Management Act requires that the Land and
19 Water Board and the Environmental Assessment Board, if
20 it's -- if it's acting, consider traditional knowledge
21 put before it. And one (1) of the points made in our
22 group was that other legislation does not require
23 traditional knowledge consideration and, therefore, that
24 the requirement in CR 2 for traditional knowledge is
25 important because it supplements, adds to, in a positive

1 way the need to consider traditional knowledge in the
2 wide range of permits which come before or, sorry,
3 subject to the Land Use Plan.

4 And we also add, of course, that the mere
5 consideration of traditional knowledge is one (1) thing
6 but community engagement is -- is another supplementary
7 thing, and that's why CR 2 is an important CR. Thank
8 you.

9 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Tom. And
10 if there's any other questions for any other -- other
11 groups I think it would be a nice -- good time to get
12 clarification for adding or helping to state or restate
13 some of the points that were made in the groups. That
14 would be very helpful. So anybody...?

15 Oh, we have Lucy.

16

17 (BRIEF PAUSE)

18

19 MS. LUCY JACKSON: It's not necessarily a
20 question, but -- well, I guess it's a question. Just
21 this is the way I view it, is to honour this strict code
22 of absolute silence or confidentiality. Why?

23 As a Deline, as a Dene peoples, we are a
24 transparency nation, so I know at the beginning when it
25 was introduced in the community of Good Hope, and this

1 was questioned a lot, so I -- I need this -- it's just a
2 statement. I'm not asking for you to -- but it's a
3 statement.

4 We are a transparent -- transparency
5 nation because this is so crucial when you have -- well,
6 can I address my -- my concern here?

7 I believe we're ans -- and I don't know --
8 we don't know too much about these global corporations
9 that -- that make up the -- the corporations.

10 Are we enhancing their -- our country's
11 resources, non-renewable resources, money? That's the
12 way I could put it. Are we reap -- reaping huge -- more
13 benefits for those few global corporations? I don't need
14 an answer. I'm just thinking out loud here, because
15 these last two (2) days here, I'm just discovering so
16 many things, and my mind is just -- what I wanted to say
17 the other day, too, is sort of in the back but it's
18 important what I have to say, and -- but it may not
19 happen here, but I'm going to continue to question all
20 these folks.

21 So why are we cloaked in this steel type
22 of secrecy, because that's the way my mind is questioning
23 it, and why? Business plans are in -- in that -- I
24 believe it is in those -- so who is going to reap the
25 benefits in our communities, and on a Canadian interest

1 because our claims is public interest?

2 And we make up that interest. I could say
3 we are a minority when we -- we are put under that scope
4 of -- and I don't think as First Nations we should be
5 classed in -- as a minority group, but away from that
6 minority group because we're not refugees, or we're not
7 immigrants, so I think we have to think about -- I have
8 to think about it.

9 I'm really perplexed here as to why we're
10 so conducive to this secret code. Boy, we're a
11 transparency nation. That's how our nations were, and
12 then to tie up our tradition with scientific knowledge,
13 because that's what I've listened to, to tie it up in
14 that secret code, I don't know -- I don't want no
15 reaction. I just -- just because if there is reaction, I
16 wouldn't know how to handle that because -- but maybe at
17 a later time I will.

18 Gee, I really -- that's where I'm coming
19 from. Anyway, thank you very much for this -- for this.

20 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Again,
21 if there's any more questions, or more comments, it will
22 be good to hear.

23 The other thing I -- I want to remind
24 ourselves, too, sometimes we often say, Well, we
25 shouldn't address this issue because there's no way of

1 enforcing it. I really think that I think we need to
2 think about that.

3 It should not stop us as communities, as
4 Elders, as people on the regulatory side of things, to
5 not think about how we can be creative towards solu --
6 have solutions. I think we need to keep that effort up
7 to try to address some of the issues that -- that we are
8 addressing today and hopefully we'll come to some
9 consensus on some of these issues that we try to move
10 forward.

11 Again, I'm -- I'm really thankful the
12 Elders were involved in this -- these hearings. And so I
13 -- I think we're just going to have a quick chat about
14 the next steps and we will get back.

15 So I think maybe we have -- it's lunchtime
16 now so it might be a good time for a break.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Yeah, there will be
21 a bit of a delay I understand. So I don't know how long
22 that might be.

23

24 (BRIEF PAUSE)

25

1 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: Just before we move
2 on, we've got a little event that's about to happen. So
3 I'd like to call up Esa Arthur. Esa Arthur, could you
4 come up here?

5 Some -- a lot of you know Arthur, he works
6 for Indian and Northern Affairs Canada on land use
7 planning. He started I don't know how many years ago,
8 thirty (30), thirty (30) years, forty (40) years ago. He
9 did a lot of land use planning work in -- in what is now
10 Nunavut and has worked on the Gwich'in Land Use Plan,
11 Dehcho Land Use Plan, Sahtu Land Use Plan. So INAC's
12 resident Elder, Es -- Esa Arthur.

13 The Board wanted to send him off and let
14 him know we've appreciated the work he's done for
15 communities and people throughout the North. So our
16 Chair is going to present him with a -- something I
17 think.

18

19 (BRIEF PAUSE)

20

21 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: Speech, speech.

22 MR. ARTHUR BOUTILIER: Well, I'm very,
23 very touched, this is completely unexpected and I'm very
24 humbled by this very, very touching gift. And I'm just
25 speechless really.

1 But in that I do have to leave this
2 afternoon, I wanted to thank the -- the Board and the
3 Town of Norman Wells and all of the community people
4 here. I feel so much at home when I come to the
5 communities and to me it's the real North.

6 And I was hanging out with the Elders from
7 Deline this morning because it's like family and so I'm
8 sorry they're not here right now. But Raymond knows how
9 special the Deline is to me and to a lot of the -- the
10 time I've spent in the North.

11 And my hero, the architect and engineer
12 and philosopher and mathematician, Buckminster Fuller, he
13 talks about synergy. It's a fancy word. If a truck goes
14 off the road and then one (1) person comes along and it
15 falls on somebody and they want to move it, one (1)
16 person can't move it. When a second person comes along
17 and they try to move the truck they can do a little more.
18 Then a third person, a fourth person, fifth person,
19 finally they can move the vehicle that's fallen on
20 somebody, that's what synergy is.

21 And that's what happens in these rooms.
22 Collective whole. The result is greater than the sum of
23 the parts. It's greater than any one (1) individual.
24 It's the power of -- of the one. The one that Deline
25 talks about: the water heart that Charlie Nyali

1 (phonetic) talks about. And it's just -- it's just so
2 humbling and empowering for me to be here; it -- it helps
3 nourish my soul. So thank you very much.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 THE CHAIRPERSON: So since we have some
8 time, you know, until lunch comes, perhaps it's a good
9 opportunity for people that are leaving this afternoon to
10 make some closing comments.

11

12 (BRIEF PAUSE)

13

14 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: Hello. I want to
15 repeat what our Chair said. We know there are people
16 leaving, I know who they are. So if you're leaving, now
17 is the time to say a few words, you know, like how great
18 the Board is and all that.

19

20 (BRIEF PAUSE)

21

22 CLOSING COMMENTS BY GNWT:

23 MR. MARK WARREN: Hello. Take a quick
24 trip to the washroom, and I missed something obviously.
25 Closing comments. I didn't anticipate giving closing

1 comments because I knew we were leaving a little ahead of
2 the ending, but I found the discussions that we had the
3 last day and a bit to be extremely productive.

4 I think an opportunity to have maybe some
5 more of those discussions, if it presents itself. Your
6 implementation workshop, I think, is a -- an exceptional
7 idea.

8 I found it extremely enlightening to hear
9 from the regulators, and especially Willard, with all of
10 his experience, when he talked about some of the
11 practical challenges that he saw in things, and he
12 brought very -- very much a hands-on experience based
13 approach to a number of the issues.

14 It was Willard that talked about, you
15 know, the setback things, saying how you have to take a
16 very practical approach to it. You know, sometimes by
17 increasing the setback you could actually do more damage
18 to the environment than by having a smaller setback, and
19 he said you have to look at it on a case-by-case basis.

20 I think that -- that was very good, and
21 then within our group we also suggested -- it was
22 suggested by someone that we should test the system, so
23 take a sample project, run it through the system as it
24 exists today, run it through the system as being proposed
25 under the Land Use Plan, and see what shakes out of that;

1 see how it -- how one (1) generates things; see if
2 there's gaps that the Plan currently misses that --that
3 should be addressed, and -- and see whether there is
4 duplication. And -- and if that duplication is -- can be
5 eliminated, then consider that, but also to make sure
6 that the Plan adds value then to the process without
7 adding too much complexity.

8 I mean, I just -- to me, the -- the true
9 value of these types of meetings is being able to hear
10 and have an open discussion about the various diverse
11 interests that people bring to the table. And those
12 things are a lot more positional, especially when they're
13 government positions when I table my formal presentation.

14 Our ability to work as a collective, that
15 Arthur talked about, is increased exponentially when we
16 can do it in the working -- you know, non-prejudice
17 workgroups.

18 So as the Board is looking forward to what
19 I understand will probably not be another Draft 4 --
20 despite what people say about government we do listen.
21 Don't always hear you but we do listen. So when you're
22 looking at the next draft, though, the -- the ability to
23 bring in what we did in the last day and a half I think
24 would be good.

25 Maybe there is an opportunity to take on

1 the participants for putting a lot of what I think is
2 time and effort into this. I think the thoughts were --
3 or the -- the presentations were extremely well thought
4 out and -- and were quite to the point. So on behalf of
5 the Government of the Northwest Territories thank you
6 very much to the Board, thank you to the host community
7 of Norman Wells, and safe travels back to your
8 communities. Thank you very much.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Go ahead.

10

11 CLOSING COMMENTS BY INAC:

12 MR. MATT BENDER: Thank you, Judith.

13 I -- I just want to say on behalf of INAC
14 based in Ottawa, I -- I certainly appreciate the
15 generosity and the hospitality. I -- I thank you for
16 inviting us here this week. I think it's also important
17 to realize that this is so much more than a paper
18 exercise and even though it appears technical and -- and
19 bureaucratic there are people within INAC, many people,
20 who truly believe in the vision behind this.

21 I think that we all know that we are
22 setting an important framework here for how the land and
23 water will be managed. So I want you to know that we are
24 certainly committed to --to working with you to make sure
25 that these visions become something tangible, something

1 real. And we really hope to do that in the next year and
2 we're -- we're committed to it.

3 So for that, thank you very much for this
4 week and we look forward to future discussions and
5 carrying it further. Thanks.

6

7 (BRIEF PAUSE)

8

9 CLOSING COMMENTS BY COLVILLE LAKE:

10 MR. JOSEPH KOCHON: Hello. I just want
11 to say thank you for inviting us to this meeting and
12 having our input into the meeting. It was a very good
13 exercise for us, a learning experience. Not very often
14 we -- we sit down with the -- the regulators and people
15 that are actually involved.

16 And when we initiate a project, you know,
17 for us to -- to initiate a project, we didn't realize how
18 much other people that are involved in the whole process.

19 There's a lot of things that are -- have
20 been talked about here, and you all have quite a bit of
21 knowledge just from sitting inside the -- the exercise,
22 you know, how much information was flying out.

23 So now I realize that -- that we're not
24 the only ones really thinking on what -- what has to go
25 on when a project happens.

1 There was something raised about
2 traditional knowledge, why it's so secretive for -- for
3 us, and we only want certain people to have access to it,
4 because we -- we give out information that's sacred to
5 us, whether it's to do with wildlife, burial grounds.

6 If we start exploiting those information,
7 then anybody could have access. If anybody had -- have
8 access to those information, then we may have a lot of
9 different people that are out there when we don't want
10 them to be out there.

11 If we start identifying all our good
12 harvesting areas then -- so those are very important
13 things for -- for us, is that even our Elders that are
14 with us, they -- they're very careful on how they talk
15 about certain things.

16 When -- when a party from outside asks a
17 question about certain areas, then they want to know why.
18 They're not sure they should disclose certain
19 information.

20 So those are reasonings why some of the
21 traditional knowledge, you know, we prefer to -- to have
22 ownership with it -- to it.

23 And all during this three (3) days, I've
24 been trying to get a clear picture of what is it that
25 we're trying to do here, but now it's finally starting to

1 lay out itself, and -- and getting a clear picture of
2 where you're headed with this.

3 It's doable as long as -- as long as we
4 all work together. We can't always put blocks in the
5 way, saying that, No, you can't do this, you can't do
6 this.

7 All our lives, you know, ever since we've
8 become an independent community, and since we've
9 developed the claims, we're always told, Yes, you can do
10 this, yes -- no, you can't do that. You know, there's
11 always certain parties that put blocks in the way, some
12 just to protect their policies, to protect, I guess,
13 their jobs, et cetera, but for us, you know, in the
14 communities it's just to -- to survive.

15 The way we look at things in our community
16 is we look at things in the long term. How are we going
17 to evolve from here into the future?

18 You look at today. There's a lot of
19 things happening in a lot of the communities, but because
20 of the -- there's no jobs or anything. Today there's no
21 activities happening. There's nothing, really, just the
22 day-to-day government programs, and the day-to-day
23 operations in a community.

24 I see a lot of stuff that's happening
25 today. People have to resort to bootlegging. They have

1 to go to gambling to -- to make their daily income.

2 That's the reality of today.

3 For us in our community, we're looking at
4 the long term. How are we going to evolve and make sure
5 that our members are taken care of? How are they going
6 to have money in their pocket and take care of
7 themselves?

8 So we planned our -- our future so that --
9 that our -- that we have something to do every -- every
10 other year, year after year, for the next ten (10) years.

11 So that's how we look at things. It's not
12 like we're pro development or anything. You know, we are
13 very conscious of our land, and we want to continue
14 protecting it. We just don't want any other parties try
15 to protect something for us that's rightfully ours.

16 And we -- we do get a lot of flack for
17 putting a whole bunch of protected area within our area,
18 but we do have our own plans for our area.

19 We are working towards a self government
20 and you know, maybe within five (5) years maybe we will
21 start seeking ways to incorporate more protected area,
22 but at this time, we're -- you know, we don't quite agree
23 with some of the -- the rules that are attached to it.

24 So I think that there is a lot of room to
25 work together with -- with the government, the

1 regulators, and ourselves. They'd have to work hand-in-
2 hand.

3 I would be really happy if -- if all
4 parties can -- can look at things the way we did today,
5 you know, where we're all sitting together, and putting
6 things up on the -- on the wall.

7 Putting our policies aside for a while,
8 and seeing how -- looking at things in reality, and I
9 like that idea of giving this thing a test run, look at
10 something real, and giving it a test run to see how it --
11 how it can fit into this Land Use Planning, and see how -
12 - how it'll go through.

13 I try to picture in my head. I know how
14 the current system works. This is a whole new thing, and
15 I don't think it'll be more complicated. Let's just see
16 how it -- how it -- what kind of ride it'll take going
17 through -- through the whole system now, so I really
18 agree with that.

19 And so today, you know, we hear some of
20 our Elders saying that there's hardly anybody out there
21 on the land. Everybody is in the communities. I'm not
22 sure why, but ourselves, you know, we try to make sure
23 that we have every -- people using the land on a daily
24 basis.

25 And you hear our Elders saying that the

1 land is like our -- our mother and our father. It feeds
2 us. That's who we are. You know, we come from the land
3 and I guess that's where we're going to return once we --
4 we've done our job.

5 So every day we -- we try to fit ourself
6 into -- to whatever comes our way. You know, right now
7 we have a whole new government now, so how -- we're
8 thinking about how we're going to fit ourselves into this
9 whole new government structure.

10 You know, do we have to fight our way
11 through again, or do we have to -- we have to live with
12 what -- what comes our way? That's -- that's the reality
13 of things, is that almost every other day we have to live
14 with whatever comes our way. So whether there's any
15 development or no activities, you know, we still can
16 survive.

17 So for me, this workshop is a really good
18 tool and, you know, if we have more difficult things in
19 the future, I think this is a kind of a format that can
20 be used to bring all the -- the parties that are involved
21 together and hash it out and make them think together
22 rather than try to enforce one (1) rule against another
23 and just make things so complicated.

24 We come from a simple life, and we like to
25 keep things simple, but -- but that's the reality of

1 things, is that everybody has their own rules.

2 So that's all I wanted to say for now, and
3 I'd like to thank you, mahsi, for the hearing. Mahsi.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Raymond...?

8

9 CLOSING COMMENTS BY DELINE:

10 MR. RAYMOND TANITON: Hello. You said
11 closing comment. I used to live off the land and back in
12 the '80s there, I should have stayed there. Getting
13 myself involved in politics in '84. More headache. I
14 should be free.

15 Anyways, I think this is the first good
16 step I've seen today, in the last few days, and hopefully
17 we'll get the puzzle together, look at the future with a
18 test run.

19 It's like -- similar like life. You make
20 mistake, you learn tomorrow from your mistake. There
21 will always be mistakes. I've learned through my life,
22 I've made a lot of mistakes. I'm glad today that I have
23 fourteen (14) years sobriety.

24 And we have different rules, but again at
25 the end of the day, if we work together, share

1 information, share our concerns, I think it's going to
2 come. It's going to go because I'm going to go back.
3 When I signed the claim in '93 with my Metis brothers
4 together, was scratching my head and said, Am I doing
5 something right here or are we making a mistake?

6 Because all the signatory to the
7 agreement, the next hundred (100) years, I thought to
8 myself that, you know, we might get criticized. We made
9 a bad deal, or did we did a good deal? But that was the
10 mandate I was given, to negotiate the Sahtu Agreement
11 with my other partners and negotiators. It still bothers
12 me today. Did I did a good deal, or not?

13 So with that, like I said earlier is that
14 we ceased and surrendered our rights in exchange for a
15 modern agreement. And I think as a First Nation, as a
16 claimant group should realize that we're not going to get
17 100 percent of what we want.

18 And we're glad -- we should be glad that
19 we're part of the decision making. We put our two (2)
20 cents into it now as part of implementation of the Sahtu
21 Dene Metis claim agreement.

22 The land itself by the Elders that was
23 passed onto generations is to protect the lands. So like
24 I said earlier, is you have to balance development and
25 also protection.

1 Nobody is going to chase us out of here.
2 This is our homeland. No law, nothing is going to cha --
3 chase us out. But if we work together -- and I like the
4 way the whole thing is couple days of workshop. I like
5 all the comments and issues that were addressed to this
6 whole Plan, is that at the end of the day, I think
7 something is going to come out of it, and I'm really
8 happy about that.

9 Like in the past, like I know Tom knows
10 about it, back in '92, in -- somewhere around there, in
11 Fort Smith, we had a Dene Nation meeting, and we were all
12 complaining, and all the regions were just concerns, and
13 -- about Aboriginal rights and Aboriginal titles and all
14 these issues and social issues.

15 I said, Why don't we break into groups?
16 So we broke into groups. I think there was something
17 like twelve (12) groups, well mixed, all the regions. We
18 listed all our concerns, and at the end of the day we got
19 -- we got the facilitators to put the whole issues and
20 concerns together, and it all looks the same.

21 So this is similar to this one. It's --
22 our concerns are put forward, both the governments,
23 everybody here. Like I said, you learn by your mistake.
24 You can make a better tomorrow, because we could also
25 review it with five (5) years time.

1 So if it was -- if it wasn't for the
2 Elders, we won't be here. If Sahtu never supported this
3 claim, we won't be here. I think you should -- within
4 your hearts, you should think about the Elders and the
5 people that negotiated this claim for us because we've
6 got to remember them. This is history.

7 So it was a lot of work. Like in Deline,
8 I think there is like, you know, less than ten (10)
9 Elders that are seventy (70) years old. We are losing a
10 lot of Elders, not only in Deline, Tulita, Good Hope, all
11 over the place.

12 But their stories should be put in their
13 hearts, what they told you, in your mind. That's where
14 TK -- all the information that is gathered, it's all from
15 them because we live off the land, we know the area, we
16 know what's there, and people has to respect that.

17 And we learn from one another. Like I
18 said, when -- I got elected August of 1984 as a Band
19 council. I just came right off the land. I was trapping
20 for over twenty (20) years.

21 And there's a whole bunch of Elders
22 sitting at the -- our first meeting, I sat there as a
23 Band council, and they're just talking away. I said,
24 What in the world are they talking about?

25 But I learned through my life through

1 others, and gained knowledge. So we're gaining -- we'll
2 be gaining knowledge from here. I sound like an Elder,
3 but I'm still -- I'm getting there.

4 So, you know, we've been -- we've been --
5 we have our differences between the Crown and us, since
6 day one (1) when the -- when the treaty was signed. And
7 Deline -- to tell the truth, Deline never signed a
8 treaty. Are you surprised? Because we did research on
9 this. Just to let you know, Deline never signed a
10 treaty.

11 And -- but again we learned from it.
12 Again, there's a lot of issues that need to be resolved,
13 not only on a regional level, but also on a community
14 level. There's a lot of social issues. There's a lot of
15 problems, which as leaders, as Chiefs, and presidents, or
16 the leadership itself, have to deal with it. That's why
17 they're elected.

18 Being a Chief is -- it's not five (5) to
19 seven (7) or nine (9) to five (5) job. It's a twenty-
20 four (24) hour job to take care of all the problems.
21 You're not going to fix everything, but at least you try.
22 But you have to work together. One Elder said that
23 there's a big rock. You try to move it yourself, it
24 won't move. But if everybody works together as a
25 community to move that rock, that rock will move. This

1 is what we're trying to do here, all parties.

2 I know there is some disagreement, but
3 again, this is who we are. Like I said earlier, nobody
4 is going to change the colour of my face. This is who I
5 am.

6 But if we all work together on this, we're
7 going to go far. And governments, First Nations, and
8 companies, these are our -- this is our rules. This is
9 what we have negotiated.

10 The Gwich'in claims are similar to Sahtu
11 but again, our cultures are different. Colville, Good
12 Hope, Tulita, Norman Wells, Sahtu -- I mean Deline, we
13 are one (1) people, but our cultures and what we do is
14 kind of different. And this is who we are.

15 But I'm not thinking about myself, but I'm
16 thinking for next generations to come. Make sure they
17 live with it, or we learn from our mistake, we can make a
18 better tomorrow. They're our next future leaders. I
19 would like to thank all the youth that are here from
20 Tulita and elsewhere because they're learning from us.

21 We'll have an argument once in a while,
22 this is who we are, but again, at the end of the day, it
23 all works out. So with that, I'll be -- we're leaving
24 about six (6) o'clock back to Deline, and I've -- like I
25 said, I like -- I like the puzzle here.

1 And hopefully the Land Use Plan Board, and
2 the staff, I think they did a good job trying to put this
3 together. And I will support that. Deline will support
4 that. So I don't want to waste too much of your time,
5 but that's my -- that's what I'm thinking about. I'm
6 giving you a piece of my mind here.

7 So enjoy yourself. Have a safe trip back
8 home. And if you need advice from me, it might cost you
9 a little bit.

10 Okay, so I'd like to thank the Elders, the
11 youth, all the people that are here. Mahsi. Safe trip
12 back home. Thank you very much.

13

14 (BRIEF PAUSE)

15

16 THE CHAIRPERSON: Okay. I think our food
17 is here, so we'll break for lunch now. We'll come --
18 reconvene at 1:30, so one (1) hour lunch break.

19

20 --- Upon recessing at 12:35 p.m.

21 --- Upon resuming at 1:40 p.m.

22

23 THE CHAIRPERSON: We're going to begin.
24 Sorry, it's taking us a while to get started here, but
25 we're going to begin with closing comments here. A lot

1 of people have already left so I'm sorry, but we'll
2 begin. They're just calling people in.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 THE CHAIRPERSON: So the reason why we've
7 changed the agenda and moved up the closing comments is,
8 as you can see, a lot of people have already left or are
9 making arrangements to leave and, therefore, the -- the
10 stuff with the implementation workshop that -- in that
11 discussion group will be dealt with when we do the
12 implementation workshop, and you can make comments on the
13 other discussion items if you wish in your closing
14 comments. Okay?

15 Any question on that? Otherwise, I'll
16 begin.

17

18 (BRIEF PAUSE)

19

20 THE CHAIRPERSON: So we'd like to thank
21 everyone for coming to our hearing. This has been a
22 historic event, the first public hearing held for a Land
23 Use Plan under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management
24 Act. We believe it has been successful in bringing the
25 participants in this process together to share their

1 views on what the Sahtu Land Use Plan should look like.

2 The Board has developed a better
3 understanding of the various perspectives of the parties,
4 and of your common concerns.

5 We did things -- we did things a little
6 differently this week, and we found our innovation
7 valuation. We hope that you did, too. The breakout
8 groups have given us a tool to bring you into the convers
9 -- conversation with each other. I'm sorry we weren't
10 able to have more of them.

11 A hearing is about being heard, so let us
12 highlight some of the key feedback that we are taking
13 away from this meeting.

14 We have heard that you want the Plan done
15 soon. We have heard that you are happy with the proposed
16 changes to zoning, that areas not included in a final
17 protected area should be zoned as either special
18 management or general use.

19 We have heard that special management
20 zones are critical to the Plan, but that the wording of
21 rules for those zones need further clarification.

22 We have heard that there is broad support
23 for the intent of the conformity requirements but that
24 further clarification is required, and some suggestions
25 were made to assist us with that.

1 And as GNWT and INAC were leaving, you
2 know, they -- they've stated time and time again that,
3 you know, they do want to work with us to try to resolve
4 some of those issues so, you know, that was very good for
5 the Board to hear, and staff.

6 We heard that CRs must be able to be
7 implemented by the primary regulator, the Sahtu Land and
8 Water Board, as well as other regul -- regulators. Any
9 revisions to the conformity requirements must continue to
10 protect and promote the well-being of residents and
11 communities throughout the region.

12 We have had some informative exchanges on
13 topics such as directional drilling, and current
14 practices and conditions for dealing with financial
15 security, incidental harvest, community engagement,
16 traditional knowledge, and community benefits.

17 We discussed various approaches to writing
18 the conformity requirements to best achieve the goals
19 they are trying to advance. This will help the Board
20 carry out revisions for the final draft.

21 When the Board announced the public
22 hearing, we planned to move directly from the hearing to
23 a final draft that the Board can adopt and submit for
24 approval. It is clear today, however, that more
25 discussion is required with the approving parties first.

1 Let me outline the next steps that, in the
2 Board's judgment, need to be taken in order to meet our
3 common goal of completing the Plan as soon as possible.

4 In light of the important input that the
5 Board received yesterday about the success of the
6 Gwich'in Land Use Plan, the Board directs that -- that
7 the GNWT and INAC provide the Board with copies of any
8 written comments that these parties have made on
9 revisions to the Gwich'in Land Use Plan by May 15th, and
10 that the GNWT and INAC copy the Board with received, both
11 oral and written, since the release of Draft 3, including
12 this hearing and follow-up comments in determining
13 revisions for the final draft plan.

14 The Board will make final revisions as we
15 deem most appropriate in that interests of the well-being
16 of the Sahtu communities and residents.

17 We now invite closing comments from all
18 participants. Because the purpose of the hearing is to
19 hear, we invite you in your closing comments to share one
20 (1) message that someone else said over the last three
21 (3) days, what was their message; what did it mean to
22 you; and how you will act on it.

23 We, of course, invite you to speak on any
24 other matter of interest to you, any of the discussion
25 items that you haven't had a chance to talk about, like

1 the action or recommendations or implementation plan.

2 Sorry, I guess I lost a page here. Okay,
3 where was I?

4 Okay, the -- this part I missed, sorry.
5 The Board will allow a forty (40) day -- forty-five (45)
6 day period for all the interested parties to submit
7 follow-up comments from the hearing in writing. This is
8 to let the parties, from whom the Board requested further
9 information or comments on specific issues, respond.

10 In addition, if any party feels the need
11 to respond to a presentation or comment of another party,
12 the results of a breakout group or new information, they
13 may do so. Under our procedure they may also respond to
14 the written comments that are on the Board's website if
15 they have not done so already.

16 If you send a response, do not repeat any
17 comments that your organization has already submitted.
18 The deadline for these comments is June 20th.

19 The Board has undertaken to respond to the
20 legal arguments submitted on the question of the Board's
21 jurisdiction to include actions in the Plan. We will do
22 this in writing by June 20th.

23 Most importantly, there will be further
24 discussions with the approving parties. The Board would
25 like your input on this next step in the process. Here

1 is our current thinking.

2 The GNWT has asked the Board to consider
3 completing a Draft 4 before it submits a final draft for
4 approval. Yesterday, the GNWT indicated that it -- that
5 it is open to alternatives to that. The Board is happy
6 to hear that.

7 The people of the Sahtu have been waiting
8 a long time for this Plan to be completed. A further
9 draft has the potential to open up new issues and further
10 delay completion. It is the Board's intent to complete a
11 final draft plan this year.

12 We have found the breakout groups
13 extremely helpful and the Board will consider organizing
14 further technical discussions this year to build greater
15 consensus around technical points for the final draft
16 plan.

17 Regarding the approving parties, we are
18 considering having a tripartite meeting this fall. The
19 Board will take the summer to assess the record of input
20 since Draft 3. For a fall meeting the Board would
21 develop a discussion document of proposed revisions to
22 the CRs, actions and recommendation for discussion with
23 SSI, GNWT and INAC.

24 This meeting and the supporting document
25 would, of course, be on the record. The meeting would

1 allow the Board to focus directly on the concerns of the
2 three (3) approving parties to determine if we are on the
3 right track for final revisions. It would be -- it would
4 enable the Board to work for the -- with them to resolve
5 any outstanding issues.

6 Today the Board asks all participants to
7 consider supporting this approach so we can complete a
8 plan that we are confident the three (3) parties can
9 approve. In your closing comments today or in your
10 follow-up comments please let us know if you support
11 this.

12 The Board has received many, many comments
13 since the release of Draft 3 and we have consulted
14 broadly. Let us assure you that we will be considering
15 every comment received, both oral and written, since the
16 revision of Draft 3, including this hearing and follow-up
17 comments, in determining revisions for the final draft
18 plan.

19 The Board will make revisions as we deem
20 most appropriate in the interests of the well-being of
21 the Sahtu communities and residents.

22 So I now invite you to make your closing
23 comments because the purpose of the hearing is to listen
24 to you. Thank you.

25 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Madam

1 Chair. I -- I just wanted to -- like before we broke for
2 lunch we had closing comments from a few of the parties,
3 from Deline, Colville Lake, and GNWT and -- and the
4 government folks there. So I would like to know if maybe
5 the communities would like to continue with their closing
6 comments, for Good Hope, if you wish, or Tulita and
7 Norman Wells. So if anybody would like to go and --
8 thank you.

9 Doug Yallee from Tulita would like to make
10 some closing comments. Thank you.

11

12 CLOSING COMMENTS BY TULITA:

13 MR. DOUGLAS YALLEE: On behalf of the
14 Tulita -- Tulita Land and Financial Corporation I'd like
15 to thank the host community for inviting us here for this
16 meeting, this gathering, with the land use planning.
17 It's been -- been going in a long process; it's been
18 going for a long -- quite a while.

19 And for -- for Tulita it's often, you
20 know, we struggle with this land use planning. We have
21 been having meetings and meetings among -- amongst
22 ourselves and, you know, with -- with the help of our
23 Elders we -- they decided on what to do for us.

24 That's the reason --- I mean, that's one
25 (1) of the big reasons why, you know, like some -- as the

1 speakers were saying it's -- it's very important that the
2 Elders are amongst us when we have our meetings; they
3 give us guidance and direction, you know.

4 And so what -- what they've been telling
5 us the -- the -- from the Tulita Land Corporation they
6 made the directions and it's been submitted to the Land
7 Use Planning Board.

8 And, you know, also I'd like to recommend
9 to the Land Use Planning Board that they see -- seek more
10 funding to do more meetings, workshops, in -- in the
11 communities with -- with the people in the communities.
12 I know there's still more work to be done to this land
13 use planning. There's still a lot of other thing -- a
14 lot of issues.

15 You know, it's -- it's a new thing for me
16 like, you know, for the land use planning itself. And I
17 know it's been a part of -- it's in the Land Claim
18 Agreement but it took so long to -- to get where we are
19 today after the fifteen (15) year period, you know, and
20 it should have been in -- done quite a while ago too. It
21 should have been one (1) of the tools that we used to
22 work with industry and all that -- part of that too.

23 And -- and all the other communities too,
24 I'd like to -- I heard them speak -- speaking and some of
25 them -- you know, all their -- all their -- the speaking

1 that they've been doing for their communities it's --
2 it's pretty well similar to everybody else's I guess.
3 But I mean, hearing other people speaking it helps me to
4 -- you know, to understand this land planning more. Like
5 Joseph was saying, you know, the more people speak up the
6 more people understand what's happening with the land use
7 planning, you know.

8 And you've got industry and INAC and GNWT
9 are here too. I mean, and, you know, it would have been
10 nice if we do recommended that the Land Use Planning
11 Board seek funding to have workshops in the community,
12 because I think this is a very, very big issue, the Land
13 Use Plan itself. The communities need to understand
14 what's the whole process about and what it can do for us
15 as a community and as a -- as a person, you know.

16 And so from Tulita anyways I'd just like
17 to thank everybody. And the Land Use Planning Board
18 itself, you guys did a great -- I know it was a long and
19 hard process but you guys did a tremendous job here and
20 it's good. And everybody else in the whole Sahtu that
21 came down to this meeting, Good Hope, Colville Lake,
22 Deline, and -- and our Elders, and especially to the
23 Elders, I thank them for being here with us. You know
24 they spoke up and they sort of guided us, give us
25 directions. And for the youth that we have, I know that

1 our youth here -- Wade, we brought Wade with us and I
2 believe Fort Good Hope has got one (1) too, so -- and I
3 thank them for being here.

4 And I wish everybody a safe journey home
5 and I'd like to get the mic over to my Elder Frank
6 Andrews to say a few words also. Thank you.

7

8 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

9

10 GRAND CHIEF FRANK ANDREW: Okay. Thank
11 you for (INDISCERNIBLE) the past three (3) days. We're
12 trying to (INDISCERNIBLE) the Sahtu Land Use Plan
13 (INDISCERNIBLE). And if you look at the Sahtu Land Use
14 Plan (INDISCERNIBLE) one (1) that's going to lead us;
15 it's going to give us an idea how we're going to go ahead
16 (INDISCERNIBLE).

17 We -- we're not saying no to developers.
18 What -- what we're saying is that -- to the developers,
19 is that through the Sahtu Land Use Plan we have some
20 concerns, some values that we want to protect, and in --
21 in the Sahtu Land Use Plan it recognized those values
22 that the Dene people want to be respected -- the -- the
23 developers to respect.

24 Yesterday somebody mentioned these regula
25 -- regulatory boards and -- and we're not regulatory

1 boards ourselves. It's -- it's the non-government or the
2 non-Dene that -- that's formed these regulatory boards:
3 the GNWT, the federal government.

4 And -- and as Dene people we don't do
5 things twice. When -- when you talk about duplication
6 there's no such thing as duplication in -- in our world,
7 in -- in the Dene world. We -- what -- what we say is we
8 -- we tell the truth.

9 And -- and the Elders, when they speak,
10 it's -- it's -- it's very good to hear the Elders speak
11 because the Elders tell the truth, and it's always been
12 like that. In the past that's how the Elders have been.
13 They've been a very strong-minded, strong-willed people.
14 And because of their strong determination they -- they
15 don't seem to be deterred. They -- they can't be
16 distracted as -- as Elders, and that's how -- that's why
17 we respect Elders.

18 As for myself, I am very grateful that we
19 participated in this process, and I'm very thankful for
20 that -- for that opportunity to be involved. This --
21 that's how things work. This is how you can resolve
22 things. This is how you find answers.

23 So thank you very much for listening to
24 me. Thanks.

25

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 CLOSING COMMENTS BY ELDER MAURICE MENDO:

4

5 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

6

7 ELDER MAURICE MENDO: Thank you very much
8 for the past three (3) days. We've talked about a lot of
9 issues. Thank -- thank you for that. Because we're
10 talking about our -- our lives and that's what we're
11 making statements for. If it works it would be really
12 good. If -- if it looks good on the paper then it will
13 be good, because it's for our children.

14 We want to do this for our children and
15 make sure it's right and make sure it's strong and
16 powerful. If it's -- it's a weak document then, you
17 know, that's -- what -- what are we doing? Our voice has
18 to be strong and we have to speak as one (1) voice. And
19 if we don't say nothing then how -- how can we be strong?

20 And we have to support each other and with
21 our voice and whatever, because we want well-being for
22 our people, and we need to finish this.

23 Things like this, if -- it's very
24 important, we cannot avoid it. We have to make it right
25 -- work and make it right, and this is what we're here

1 for, to -- to do that kind of work. You young people
2 here on this table -- and the young people that are here,
3 they probably really listen.

4 And he's -- he's -- he's collecting
5 information. This young persons that are here, they're -
6 - they're learning. Because him too, he's got future
7 generations to worry about later on. When that person is
8 growing, they're -- they're growing so they can learn
9 things, that it's important to them and for their people
10 too.

11 So thank you very much. I had a really
12 good meeting. Because it's a -- survival that we're
13 talking about, which is good. It's something that I'm
14 worried about. When we talk, when we -- we're making the
15 statement, when we're making an agreement, like after
16 five (5) years if we don't agree with something we can
17 review it again it's been said. That's something that
18 I'm -- I'm thinking about: How can we -- we change
19 something that we agree to.

20 And funding too. Money has to be
21 allocated for everything that we want to do. Because
22 today's world you have to -- need -- you need cash to --
23 to make things go ahead.

24 So thank you very much. I -- and I hope
25 that all of you have a safe journey back to your homes

1 and that the Creator take good care of you. We're not
2 the boss for ourself (sic); it's the Creator that takes
3 care of us. And we -- that's -- for that reason we are
4 here day-to-day. So let's think about the Creator and we
5 make sure that everything we do in our lives that the
6 Creator is involved. If there's no -- we don't believe
7 in the Creator, but there's other people that maybe don't
8 believe in the Creator but they have their own way of
9 believing in the -- in -- in -- in Christianity and
10 spirituality.

11 This land, when we want to say we want to
12 keep it, we want to take care of it. It's -- it's so
13 important for us. Even the water. Springtime right now;
14 there's supposed to be lots of water, but look at it out
15 -- look out there, there's hardly any water. Look at the
16 snow. And then the snow is supposed to be disappearing -
17 - disappeared by now, but they're still here so today's
18 climate has -- has totally -- is -- is just totally
19 different than before.

20 So we know that there's changes that are
21 happening with us today. So we have to look at those
22 kind of things. We have to look at the changes that are
23 happening to us today. People too are -- are -- are not
24 listening or people are changing their ways of thinking
25 too. So it looks like we -- we've been sidetracted

1 (sic), we've been distracted. Maybe one (1) day will --
2 everything will get back together.

3 So I'd like to thank the -- everybody
4 here. And let's -- let's pray for the young children and
5 -- and their future, because they're the ones that are
6 going to take over in the future. So let's pray for
7 them, the young people. Thank you very much for
8 listening to me. Thank you.

9

10 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

11

12 CONTINUED CLOSING COMMENTS BY COLVILLE LAKE:

13

14 (INTERPRETED FROM NORTH SLAVEY INTO ENGLISH)

15

16 ELDER GABRIEL KOCHON: I -- I just wanted
17 to say thank you. What we are talking about is something
18 very important. This is what I -- I was born and raised
19 on, what we are talking about. It's something that's
20 very important to us, as well as our water. Everybody
21 lives by water in the land so we have to take care of it.

22 This is something that's very important to
23 us that we are discussing right now. If things are going
24 to go our way it'll happen. But all of this talk about
25 our water and our land I'm very thankful to hear all of

1 that kind of discussion.

2 Our -- we were talking about it yesterday;
3 we have been existence (sic) on this land for thousands
4 and thousands of years, and then we're the ones that are
5 the descendants of our ancestors that come from this --
6 this line of being on this land for a long time. And if
7 I were to tell you all of the stories from my ancestors,
8 all of the stories that were told to me by my
9 grandparents and my parents, I would be talking to you
10 for maybe two (2) or three (3) days; he said, that's how
11 much information. The information that we share with
12 you, this is knowledge that has been passed down to us by
13 our ancestors for thousands of years, from generations to
14 generation.

15 And as -- as Aboriginal people we're very
16 thankful for all the help and all of the support that you
17 are all giving us in this -- in regards to this issue.
18 And I'm so thankful to hear all of this support and all
19 of the good words that are given to this project.

20 And we don't know what's going to happen
21 in the future. Even if it's for today, in a few days or
22 whatever, we're not able to tell what is going to happen.
23 But what we are doing here is for our future generations.
24 We want things to be the same way that it is for us and -
25 - and if they have a good future with our help then we'd

1 be very thankful as Elders.

2 I am still trapping. I am eighty-three
3 (83) years old and still -- I am still actively trapping.
4 Our -- our forefathers told us, and my grandfather told
5 us, this is our way of life, don't let it go, just
6 continue to utilize it. And so my father told me this:
7 We don't -- we don't know what's going to happen with our
8 future generations, so it's very important that you
9 practice your tradition and culture in front of them so
10 that they can grasp it and -- and utilize it into the
11 future.

12 And just recently I haven't been feeling
13 as healthy and as good as I should be, but maybe it's
14 with age.

15 But this land and our water that you're
16 talking about, I'm so thankful to hear all of this
17 discussion, even the people that are outside of our
18 region that are supporting us in our work. I would like
19 thank you all from the bottom of my heart. It isn't the
20 work that we are doing for now -- you are also the ones
21 that are helping the -- the -- for the betterment of the
22 future of our youth. That's the way I look at it. So
23 what you are doing is very important for us.

24 Maybe if things don't -- if -- maybe in
25 the future it might be very hard, like for our families

1 to know each other, to support each other, that's what
2 they say could happen. But as Aboriginal people we --
3 there's nothing -- nothing negative that comes out of our
4 culture. Everything that we make is to -- to take care
5 of ourself (sic); like making snowshoes, ice chisels, all
6 kind of tools, to make a living for ourself (sic) and to
7 provide for ourself (sic).

8 But today, our -- I have a lot of
9 grandchildren and they don't speak in their language and
10 some of them don't really know their culture. They don't
11 live off the land. Some of them don't even know how to
12 trap. And this is very, very worrisome for me.

13 And what bothers me the most is because we
14 can't understand each other, myself and my grandchildren.
15 All of the Elders know this. All of the Elders feel it.
16 We've lost this communication with our -- our youth, and
17 the English language is becoming more predominant today.
18 And as Elders this is something that we're very concerned
19 about.

20 I'd like to thank all of you, all of my
21 relations here. I'm so thankful. I'm -- I'm -- even
22 though I'm this old, he said, I'm still pretty hyper;
23 while I was talking I even spilled my tea all over the
24 table, he said.

25 So thank -- thank you.

1 (INTERPRETATION CONCLUDED)

2

3 CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. ROGER BONIFACE:

4 MR. ROGER BONIFACE: I'm Roger Boniface,
5 I'm the President of the Renewable Resources Council in
6 Fort Good Hope. I also sit on the Yamoga Board of
7 Directors.

8 I listened for the last couple of days to
9 a lot of comments and on behalf of the RRC I'm some --
10 somewhat comfortable what's in that Plan, but on the land
11 corporation side there's still a lot of issues that need
12 to be resolved. Like the Fort Good Hope group trapping
13 area, I think the people in Fort Good Hope want it
14 implemented into the -- the Plan. So that's very
15 important. So I'd just like to comment on that.

16 I'd like to thank everybody for listening.
17 So we will be sending our letter to maybe Judith before
18 June. Thank you.

19

20 CLOSING COMMENTS BY FORT GOOD HOPE:

21 MR. GEORGE BARNABY: Yeah, my name is
22 George Barnaby and I sit on the Yamoga Land Corporation.
23 I'm the vice-president. And I'd like to thank everybody
24 that was here to help out with this process. There's a
25 lot of concern from our district on the land use planning

1 process because people didn't want to lose any control of
2 their lands to other boards or other people. So you hear
3 the people talking, especially the Elders and the feeling
4 they have for the land.

5 I -- I lived on the land. I travelled
6 around with dog teams and skidoos and went trapping, and
7 I know how -- how beautiful the land is and why everybody
8 feels so strong about it, you know, and this time of the
9 year when the ducks start coming how good it is to -- to
10 be out.

11 So we want to protect our land and the
12 best way is for the people that have strong feelings so
13 we -- we all have our own lands since, like the Elders
14 said, for thousands and thousands of years. So the
15 K'asho Got'ine have land that they've always used.

16 So yesterday I mentioned about our process
17 of consensus. So the only way to have consensus is if
18 you have authority. So we always like authority at the
19 community level. We always give our people the authority
20 so everybody has a say and keep talking as long as they
21 want. I guess that gives everybody a lot of security and
22 they know that there will be no surprises and that's a
23 good process that. So other people might not like it but
24 we like it that way.

25 So that's -- that's our way of doing

1 and I'd like to thank everyone. Bye.

2 MS. HEATHER BOURASSA: Hello. Hi, I am
3 Heather Bourassa, representing the K'Asho Got'ine Lands
4 Corporation.

5 The same with the rest of my delegation,
6 I'd like to thank everybody for coming together in the
7 Land and Wat -- Land Use Planning Board and giving us an
8 opportunity to talk and to listen.

9 It's unfortunate that our -- our Chief
10 isn't here but he had to go to Inuvik and he just wanted
11 me to let everybody know or he wanted me to mention how
12 happy he was that the Elders were able to speak and the
13 message that they were putting out there on our behalf.

14 I wanted to say that I found this really,
15 really useful because, as community members, landowners
16 and land users, we have a very -- I think we have a
17 pretty clear picture of what we want for our plan, and I
18 found this useful to hear the perspective of INAC and
19 GNWT because they also have to sign off on our plan. So
20 I didn't necessarily always agree with it but I thought
21 it was really, really useful in moving it forward.

22 And I was a little bit sad that we don't
23 have time to talk about the mandatory actions. I hope
24 that there is an opportunity down the road. I think
25 there is a lot of questions regarding the implementation

1 of our Land Use Plan so I really hope that going forward
2 there will be an opportunity for us to speak more about
3 that, especially with -- with INAC and GNWT because we
4 all have to agree on how it's going to work and there was
5 no -- there was no clear direction, I think, from -- from
6 SSI or from the communities when it comes to the
7 mandatory actions.

8 And our district also has to come back to
9 the Land Use Plan with our conservation initiative, so we
10 will be submitting comments about that, too, to you
11 before the forty-five (45) day period is over. So I just
12 wanted to mention that, as well.

13 But thank you and again, yeah, I hope
14 everybody has a safe trip home. Mahsi.

15

16 CLOSING COMMENTS BY MR. ISADORE MANUAL

17 MR. ISADORE MANUAL: Hello. My name is
18 Isadore Manual. I work for Yamoga, so -- Yamoga Land
19 Corp. These are my bosses up here.

20 You know, I want to say thank you to
21 everyone for the -- for this Hearing and the way it was
22 set up and it was real interesting meeting for the last
23 two (2) or three (3) days. There's a lot of -- a lot of
24 thinking and a lot of -- a lot of people speaking out, so
25 I thank everyone.

1 I know before the claim was settled, it
2 was really simple when we had to deal with activities on
3 our land, development. INAC just came in. Before they -
4 - before that, they opened lands and then INAC came in
5 and met with the people and saying which areas are going
6 to be developed or open for development. So it was real
7 easy. And after that, companies come in and -- and met
8 with the people. And that's how simple it was. And --
9 and the people talk with the companies and then...

10 Now, I know -- I know, under the
11 regulatory bodies now, it's the same thing, but it's more
12 complicated. You have to go through a lot of boards, the
13 communities and the other partners. So I know it's the
14 same thing, but it's just that it's more complicated.
15 Everybody has to be -- like, everything has to be
16 coordinated and making sure that everyone is kept
17 informed and that everybody works together.

18 If we don't work together, things are
19 going to fall apart. Anyway, I just want to repeat what
20 -- what Good Hope, Colville, you know, have said. They -
21 - we are the authority at the community level. We are
22 the authority and it's always been our position that we
23 always try to hang on to -- trying to enforce as the
24 community.

25 And it's -- that's the way our land claim

1 has been based on -- on -- on that -- on that -- on that
2 position, too. That's the way it's been structured, so
3 all the control is at the community level.

4 I know we've been having some conflicts in
5 the past with SSI. SSI does not speak for us. They
6 don't decide for us. They don't tell us what to do. But
7 we all -- but we got to work with them. We got to work
8 with them and that's the way it is.

9 And -- but they -- they don't have
10 authority over the communities. So I just wanted to
11 mention that. Thank you.

12

13 CLOSING COMMENTS BY MS. LUCY JACKSON:

14 MS. LUCY JACKSON: A few -- just a few
15 things that I want to -- because I don't know if we're
16 going to be all at the table at a future days, but I want
17 to address this now.

18 What is free trade? I'm not expecting any
19 answer. Will this impact us in any way? That's one (1)
20 area that I'm interested in, too.

21 And you talk about this five (5) year --
22 after five (5) years you're going to a review, and I
23 don't know what that means in between these -- this five
24 (5) years. Is the door going to remain open for us?

25 I'm talking about, you know -- perhaps

1 somebody must know what I'm talking about. But I need to
2 address that right now. And it's hard to explain. I
3 think I understand what section 35 of our constitution,
4 is not to lessen and to take away the rights that we
5 have.

6 But we continue to lock ourselves in a
7 peer capital funding, and that has decreased and this
8 impacts our healthcare, and social services, and low cost
9 housing. It's unacceptable.

10 Municipal government has to be really
11 brought back to the communities, and explain to the
12 peoples what this mech -- mechanism of governing is all
13 about. It's sort of unacceptable right now.

14 So I'm talking about this poverty scale
15 and good thing I came in with a small paper, not knowing
16 what I was going to walk into, but I think we owe a full
17 complementary report to the Elders.

18 That's what we call respect, because
19 they're caught in some situations where they find out
20 after the fact that agreements are signed, that they're
21 giving traditional knowledge, and sometimes they're
22 sitting there with, What happened, how did this happen?

23 So I think we owe them a full
24 complementary report, and I think that during the highway
25 and the pipeline, what is involved in there. What kind

1 of companies will be part of these infrastructures
2 internationally, globally?

3 And what are the sizes of companies, and
4 machinery? Are they all part of the agreement signed
5 already? Is there global corporations and public
6 corporations involved, subsidiary companies, man-sized
7 camps, and everything?

8 I don't -- we don't know. I think this is
9 what I'm coming at because I -- you know, if a
10 population, a First Nation population, has lived and
11 adapted to live in poverty, and it's ingrained in this
12 subsystem, my system, for the case, we succumb, and are
13 easily susceptible to give anything for a cup of tea, or
14 other substance, or even for a few dollars, or cents, and
15 we can't allow that.

16 I think we have to know all these things
17 and I'm -- I think we have to help to work together
18 anyway.

19 Anyway, I enjoyed these three (3) days.
20 Boy, my mind is running all over the place. Mahsi cho to
21 the -- to the -- you peoples up there. Gee, thank you
22 very much. Boy, you opened the doors. Mahsi.

23 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Mahsi,
24 Elders. Norman Wells, if you care to. Mahsi.

25

1 CLOSING COMMENTS BY NORMAN WELLS:

2 MR. ROGER ODGARD: Okay, I -- I heard
3 Judith in the beginning there about -- and I liked it
4 about -- in our closing remarks, and I guess we're going
5 to combine closing remarks now with workshop conclusions.

6 And what you were saying about workshop
7 conclusions and bringing up something that you heard from
8 the other groups, in that regard, I heard -- I heard from
9 quite a few people. Like -- like, what our guys from
10 Good Hope were saying, I'm in total agreement with --
11 with what they're saying in regards to they're the --
12 they're the lookers of the land. They look after the
13 land. They should be making the decisions.

14 And my -- my concern is, is that I believe
15 when the Land Use Plan is complete, there will be a
16 working group that consists of ten (10) to twelve (12)
17 people, and only one (1) from each community. So that,
18 right there, kind of goes against the grain of giving
19 authorities to change protections plans or whatever you
20 want to call these, weather it's PAS or the Land Use
21 Plan, giving that authority to change those boundaries in
22 your backyard to a larger group of people where I don't -
23 - haven't seen a -- not even a veto power for the
24 affected community.

25 I -- I agree. I -- I think that they

1 should at least have a veto power, or just give the whole
2 authority to that district or community some day. You
3 know, we -- we can revise boundaries every five (5)
4 years. Well, maybe in five (5), ten (10) years we can
5 get our -- get our warriors together and fight the same
6 fight and maybe change process.

7 I don't think it can be done right now,
8 but in this year, like, we're trying to get this Plan out
9 of the way like everybody's saying, but at the same time
10 this brings me into my next point which is, again we're
11 here today and half the people are gone when it's the
12 most important part of the day.

13 And I know there's a lot of people here
14 that feel that their concerns haven't been addressed
15 properly because we were just getting there, and then all
16 of a sudden everybody's gone.

17 But I have assured some people that -- and
18 I know they're still not comfortable -- that I've worked
19 with some of these people here for fifteen (15) years,
20 and I know the facilitators here do a darn good job.

21 And it's going to be even more relevant
22 now and more important that facilitators, the Board, the
23 legal, hear what we're saying because it's -- it -- we're
24 feeling like we're not going to be accommodated,
25 especially in the regards that I just mentioned where it

1 kind of goes against the grain to not even have a veto
2 power on changing it.

3 But -- and there are other concerns out
4 there that haven't -- we haven't had the time to address
5 today. Maybe we should have had another day, and --
6 because you could obviously see what happened.

7 So my point here -- my second point is --
8 is we're leaving it into the hands of the facilitators,
9 the team, the legal from the Land Use Planning Board now
10 that -- that you guys, you know, you done awesome work in
11 the last fifteen (15) years. And I know you guys take
12 all our concerns and -- and put it together in reports
13 and binders but this time you're really going to have to
14 hear us and push as hard as we can for that draft.

15 And I know that Territorial and Feds might
16 have problems with it, but at least we tried and you --
17 you've heard us. And all I'm saying is, do the best you
18 can to accomm -- to at least put those concerns in there
19 in the final draft, but I believe it's all workable.

20 And the last part I wanted to bring up was
21 in regards to all the regulatory bodies out there and the
22 Land Use Plan. In our -- in our group, Group 4, it
23 seemed like a lot -- everything we come up with, either
24 the Feds or Territorial Government, you know, which --
25 and they're -- and they're right, have concerns with.

1 And the difference between recommendations, and CRs, and
2 conforming to certain rules is a big ticket item.

3 Like we -- I'm a believer that the Plan
4 can put in things in there that are already there. We're
5 not duplicating, we're just, you know, not enforcing but
6 we're just -- we're just reminding, saying that these --
7 these regulations are out there, and you have to conform
8 with them.

9 Whatever may be at the end of the day with
10 the Land Use Plan and policies and procedures, to
11 simplify it in a summary and a questionnaire -- like some
12 of the issues that came up in regards to T -- TK, they
13 were -- they were great recommendations because it -- it
14 talked about bringing industry to the community even
15 before they applied. It was all in regards to
16 consultations.

17 It brings it a step farther. In order to
18 get that -- that summary and that check list of what they
19 have to do, they have to come to the community, and even
20 talk about TK before they even submit their stuff to the
21 Board.

22 So my last point is in regards to once
23 it's all finalized is to have a summary and a check list
24 to simplify all processes through the Land Use Plan,
25 which would identify all processes but in a simplified

1 way. I think that will be beneficial to all parties.

2 And other than that, I guess the bottom
3 line is -- my biggest concern, like I said already, is I
4 don't think we had enough time here.

5 Again, it happened where we just started
6 getting to the -- to the big ticket items, and all of a
7 sudden bang, here we are. We even were supposed to kick
8 -- kick off two (2) agenda items, conclusion and
9 sayonaras, and we're doing everything like that. We're
10 even kicking ourselves out faster, but that's okay, I
11 know we've got to go, but you can see the problem.

12 Now -- now we're putting it into the hands
13 of the resource people, and I -- I'm -- I'm 99.9 percent
14 confident they'll do the best they can to -- to
15 accommodate our concerns anyway. How far we get with
16 them, we'll find out.

17 But I'd like to thank everybody for coming
18 to Norman Wells. We had great weather, great -- great
19 time. I believe there's going to be a big do here in the
20 end of May, and the whole legislative assembly is coming
21 to Norman Wells at the end of the month, and it might be
22 another time to get together and strategize and -- and
23 take it from there.

24 I'm just saying -- I'll bring it up now.
25 Please -- please try and make it. We'll get the dates

1 out, but when that time comes at the end of the month,
2 we'll make it up to everybody in regards to feasts and
3 events from our side, okay. Okay. Thank you.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank -- thank you,
8 Roger. Bob wants to say a few words. Thank you.

9 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: Thank you, Roger. I
10 appreciate your comments. You reminded me of something
11 because it's come up several times. I think George
12 brought it up first, and maybe a few others, about this
13 proposed working group.

14 I'm -- and I'm going to ask Heidi to speak
15 to it and try to clarify what it is but it's not to give
16 -- the working group is not going to have any authority
17 to change the Land Use Plan when it's done, none
18 whatsoever. It's more to gather info and that, but
19 she'll -- she'll explain it.

20 And maybe Heidi could also speak to what
21 the five (5) year review period is. I think Lucy brought
22 it up, and I think I heard it before, too. Somebody said
23 they don't understand that, so.

24 But, you know, it's come up several times,
25 especially this working group, so there's some confusion

1 and misunderstanding on what the purpose of it is, so
2 I'll ask Heidi to speak to it.

3

4 (BRIEF PAUSE)

5

6 MS. HEIDI WIEBE: Thanks. Yeah, the --
7 the Sahtu working group would be very similar, Roger, to
8 what we were just doing over there in the corner.

9 The idea is to gather input on some of the
10 key issues that we have not been able to resolve in this
11 draft of the Plan. And in Draft 3, there were four (4)
12 items put under the Sahtu working group's list to
13 address. They were accumulative effects, coming up with
14 a monitoring strategy for the Sahtu region, so listing
15 monitoring priorities. Hold on, I'm blanking without
16 checking.

17 One (1) of them was a review of the
18 conformity requirements themselves to see are they
19 working, can we improve them.

20 And, yeah, anyways, so there -- there are
21 big-picture things like that -- oh, consultation
22 guidelines, that was the fourth, how would we, as a
23 region, view roles and responsibilities and -- and good
24 processes for community engagement.

25 So what we were doing is putting the --

1 the big things that come up at every meeting we go to,
2 whether it's community or -- or industry meetings or
3 government, as we need clarity on how these things should
4 be done, how should the regulatory system or the Plan
5 look after cumulative effects, what is good consultation.

6 So the idea is to get representation from
7 all the key parties to come together and have those
8 collaborative discussions as we've had between last --
9 yesterday afternoon and this morning, and the Board would
10 take those ideas back into consideration as it's doing
11 its five (5) year review.

12 Now when we are reviewing the Plan as a
13 whole, it's a fully, broadly, consultative process,
14 community driven, as we've been doing all the way through
15 this Plan in developing it.

16 So it's more of a -- maybe a technical
17 level, smaller working group to address some of these
18 really detailed questions that we, as a Board, have to
19 find an answer for, but we would take that back into our
20 full consultative process when doing the review, and --
21 and -- and so there's -- there's, I think, no chance that
22 we would not be bringing that back to the Board. There's
23 -- there's no risk there. I just -- I think I really
24 need to -- to clarify that, so thank you for raising
25 that.

1 With respect to the five (5) year review,
2 once the Plan is approved -- so not completed, but
3 approved, and that could be a few years away yet -- the
4 MVRMA says that we will review the Plan every five (5)
5 years and we'll look at things like: Is there new
6 information that's come forward? Are there new land uses
7 occurring in the region that we did not plan for? Have
8 the community views changed? Do you want to open new
9 zones up for development that -- that, now that you've
10 got experience with, you know, new things that are
11 happening, that, oh yeah, okay, we're -- we're okay maybe
12 making that special management or moving a special
13 management from general use?

14 So it allows for zone changes, or -- or
15 vice versa. If there's an area that, jeez, the first
16 round we missed that area. We really should have put a
17 conservation zone there. We need to look at that. It
18 allows for all those types of things.

19 Now there's no guarantee that -- that we
20 would make a change. Maybe in five (5) years we look and
21 say, You know what? Everything's working pretty good.
22 The Gwich'in Land Use Plan has just gone through its five
23 (5) year review right now, and they made only minor
24 modifications, from what I understand.

25 So you may not make sweeping changes. You

1 might make a few changes. You might not make any changes
2 at all. But it does require a five (5) year review, and
3 those changes -- any changes -- will always again require
4 the approval of SSI, then GNWT, then Canada. So no one
5 can ever change the Plan without it going back through
6 the communities with SSI's approval.

7 MR. BOB OVERVOLD: Just one (1) -- one
8 (1) last quick before Roger comments.

9 The other thing that the working group is
10 not going to do, because I think some people were
11 suggesting, it will not be making decisions for
12 communities on their land. That's for the communities to
13 do.

14 So that's -- the working group is not
15 going to do that.

16 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. Go
17 ahead, Roger.

18 MR. ROGER ODGARD: Thank you. That
19 pretty well takes care of my second question I was going
20 to ask you which was: Exactly how does the zones get
21 changed? And your -- your comments on SSI and going
22 through the Territorial and Federal -- Federal
23 Governments again answers my question.

24 It doesn't take care of my concern, but it
25 answers my question because, again, it goes against the

1 grain. There's -- there's some thought out there that
2 anything to do with land and development and resources in
3 a district should go to the -- authority should go to the
4 district or whatever, but it's all workable. I'd like to
5 thank you.

6 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Roger.
7 That's good. Now if we have Deline make a closing
8 comment and as well, thank you. And we're hoping SSI
9 would make and -- and INAC will, too. Thank you.

10

11 (BRIEF PAUSE)

12

13 CONTINUED CLOSING COMMENTS BY DELINE:

14 MR. TOM NESBITT: My name is Tom Nesbitt.
15 I'm a -- I -- I give technical support and legal support
16 to the -- to Deline, and I -- I see our role as technical
17 people as trying to -- just try to clarify technical
18 issues, remove technical obstacles, so that this kind of
19 initiative can go ahead. So that's my role.

20 Judith asked what we -- what we learned
21 from, or -- or found -- found valuable in this hearing.
22 Of course, it was really good just to hear from the other
23 community people, people I haven't heard or -- or met
24 before. It was good to hear their perspectives. It was
25 also good to hear from the whole Board. I've never seen

1 the whole Board working together.

2 I liked -- I liked SSI's suggestion that
3 there are other ways we can look at implementing the
4 actions if they are not required under the Sahtu Land Use
5 Plan because of legal impediments to accomplishing that.

6 Deline has identified what is considered
7 to be some policy concerns. Nonetheless, we see the
8 actions as very important. That priorities need to be
9 set within them, and that it would be good to, in further
10 technical discussions, explore some of the things that
11 SSI has identified in terms of ways of perhaps contracts,
12 or agreements of some sort of other, to accomplish some
13 of these priority solutions. So I appreciate that.

14 The third thing I really appreciate was
15 just seeing the Board working together and working
16 diligently to try to pull this thing together. It was
17 nice to hear just -- you demon -- you didn't -- you
18 didn't say it, you demonstrated it, and that was good to
19 see.

20 The Board -- Judith suggested the possibly
21 of technical discussions later on this year. I'd like to
22 support that. I heard various comments, for example,
23 from the Government of Northwest Territories, concerns it
24 has with this Draft number 3 of the Sahtu Land Use Plan.

25 I like the concept of not having to review

1 the whole Plan again, of not doing another draft on the -
2 - the whole Plan, but I would -- I think it's important
3 that the Territorial Government have a chance to talk
4 this stuff out. I heard Mark say today that he found
5 today very, very valuable, that he wished we had done
6 this earlier.

7 Sometimes I'm a mediator as well as a
8 lawyer, and -- and often people need to talk things out.
9 So I think that if the Board can find a way of achieving
10 a more focussed discussion of what I consider to be
11 technical issues, then I think that can bring us to your
12 discussions with the parties.

13 I don't think any other work is necessary
14 on this Plan. I think the remaining issues are technical
15 entirely. I think we as technical people need to free up
16 these technical issues so that the -- the interests of
17 the people, the residents of this -- of this homeland, so
18 that their interests can be met, and their well-being
19 maintained. So I would support that kind of focussed
20 technical discussion to remove those technical obstacles.

21 We believe in -- in that technical
22 discussion the -- the issue of this -- ways of
23 accomplishing the actions, I'd like to see that as part
24 of that discussion, the SSI's concepts.

25 I'd also like to see the issue that Deline

1 brought up in our submission -- I guess it was two (2)
2 days ago, it's hard to remember, time has stretched out
3 here -- the issue of below threshold work. This is a
4 matter of real concern in Deline, and I think that we
5 could, in that technical group, look at potential
6 amendments or recommendations on the part of the Board
7 for tackling -- for -- for amendments to reg -- to
8 regulations which would allow things like helicopter
9 exploration or something which the community has
10 identified for me which I wasn't previously aware of, the
11 apparent lack of permitting of water transportation.

12 I didn't know this was not permitted and
13 I'm amazed. If it is, if that's true, I'm a little
14 amazed at that, that ships or boats transporting
15 materials, including fuels, storing fuels even, requires
16 no permit. Those are the kind of focussed, reasonable,
17 below tech -- below threshold technical issues I think we
18 could take a look at in that kind of a small working
19 group.

20 I -- I think, again, as -- as one (1) of
21 the community people has already pointed out, if you --
22 if the Board can find some way of -- I know you have a
23 tough time with funding, but the Deline Land Corporation
24 has a tougher time with funding. So if you could find
25 some way of giving some support to this kind of technical

1 meeting, I think -- I'm -- I'm sure that would be
2 appreciated.

3 Other than that, I'd just like to thank
4 everyone, whether this be your town or your homeland or
5 whatever, for your hospitality and for this generous
6 sharing of ideas, and the Board for its diligent work.
7 Thank you.

8 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Tom. Now
9 INAC and SSI, who wants to go first and -- thank you.

10

11 CLOSING COMMENTS BY SSI:

12 MR. JOHN DONIHEE: Thank you, Mr.
13 Chairman. It's John Donihee. I act as counsel for SSI.
14 Unfortunately, as you all know, both Ethel and Peter
15 Menacho are off to Inuvik for the meeting that's starting
16 tomorrow and -- and couldn't be here. So I have just a
17 few brief things to say, mostly by way of repetition and
18 to emphasize some of the opening points that Ethel made.

19 Before I do that though, I want to thank
20 the host community and the land corporations, the
21 districts, the Elders, the translators who have had to
22 work with people like me who talk too fast, and everybody
23 who came to the Hearing who shared their ideas and really
24 contributed to what I -- I feel has been a very
25 constructive effort over the last three (3) days.

1 And, of course, last, but not least,
2 obviously to the Board and their staff, a job well done,
3 a tremendous amount of work that goes into just
4 organizing something like this and trying to make it car
5 -- carry it off. It's very hard to manage this many
6 people over the course of three (3) days and -- and
7 achieve what you have. So I think you should feel good
8 about that.

9 I'd like to re-emphasize that SSI's
10 approach to the job of finishing this Plan has been to
11 try to ensure that the framework set out by the
12 communities and the land corporations is what ends up in
13 the final Plan; that the Plan can be implemented; and
14 that the enforceable parts of it are means to the goals
15 and ends that the communities and land corporations have
16 identified.

17 So the point of this exercise is to try
18 and make sure that the vision for the Sahtu Region,
19 identified by the communities and land corporations, is
20 something that works with the -- the bigger system that's
21 out there, the regulatory system, but that doesn't lose
22 sight of the important things, the values that make the
23 Sahtu the wonderful region that it is.

24 It goes without saying that to finish this
25 Plan is going to be an awful lot of work, and there

1 certainly is a -- a collective sense that that work needs
2 to be done as quickly as possible.

3 It's been said a number of times over the
4 last couple of days that, you know, the Plan will be --
5 it's the first Plan, it'll be a learning experience, it
6 won't be perfect, but I'd simply like to emphasize that
7 all of that sort of reality check is no reason not to
8 move as quickly as we can to get the Plan into place.

9 If that is a reality, then let's get on
10 with it, and let's start to learn as we go because when
11 the Plan is in place it will definitely influence the way
12 that things happen on the land and, as I said, if the
13 Plan works, it will influence those things in the way
14 that the communities want.

15 Before we all go home, I -- I think the
16 other thing that perhaps we need to do is, because
17 there's been a lot of talk, and -- and I've been part of
18 it, about how much more needs to be done, I think it's
19 also important to pay a little bit of attention to what's
20 actually been achieved.

21 You know, yesterday afternoon when Joanne
22 Barnaby started over at the wall talking about what it
23 was that we needed to talk about in the groups, the first
24 -- the point where she started from was to say, Okay,
25 let's talk about CR number 1 and the zones. Does anybody

1 have any concerns about the zones? And there, you know,
2 was silence, which is beautiful, because that by itself
3 is a huge achievement. You know, that is 80 percent of
4 the Land Use Plan, and you have agreement to that
5 already. And to the extent that there have been some
6 proposals for changes to the zoning maps that were
7 identified in July, you have agreement to that from all
8 the communities, and from the three (3) approving
9 parties, as well.

10 So, you know, let's -- let's recognize
11 that a great deal has been achieved. And really for all
12 the -- the discussion that we had about conformity
13 requirements and all the rest of what's in the Plan, you
14 didn't hear any of the approving authorities say that
15 they disagreed with the intent of anything that was
16 there.

17 You know, as Tom said just a moment ago, I
18 think we're down to the -- the finishing carpentry and,
19 you know, that represents a significant accomplishment,
20 hard work by the communities, and by -- mostly by the
21 Board and it's staff, as well, and so let's push this
22 thing over the goal line. Fifteen (15) years is a long
23 time to wait and if it takes another fifteen (15) you'll
24 certainly have to do it without me.

25 With that having been said, not that I'm

1 important, go ahead and take as long as you want, but --
2 but I hope you do it faster.

3 You know, the other thing really is that I
4 -- I would request, if -- if I may, on behalf of SSI,
5 that -- that closing comments, or the comments that the
6 Chair read that -- I assume this will happen anyway, but
7 I just would like to reinforce it -- that you gave some
8 direction to some of the close -- to some of the
9 approving parties. That's going to end up on the web
10 site because there were some deadlines there that I
11 really would like to -- to be able to point out to my
12 clients.

13 Last but not least, I guess, is just that
14 I think that I -- we had already begun the task on Monday
15 in meetings with Ethel, and -- and Peter Menacho, to talk
16 about how we -- how we deal with the process of getting
17 approvals done, and I was really glad to see that the --
18 the Board is obviously ahead of us still. You are more
19 detailed than -- than we had been in -- in initiating
20 that discussion, but -- but I do think that it's very
21 important that we -- we look down the road.

22 You know, you -- you've got to kind of
23 look ahead, not -- not just to sort of working out the
24 wording of one (1) or two (2) of the CRs, but -- but also
25 look down the road to the actual approval process itself,

1 and try to line up or -- or set the -- set the table, I
2 suppose, for -- for that kind of an approval process.

3 And -- and what I can tell you is that SSI
4 has already started thinking about it, and because of --
5 because you provided us the opportunity to -- to be here
6 over the last couple of days with the other approving
7 authorities or representatives of them, we've initiated
8 that discussion with INAC, and the GNWT, as well.

9 So that's about all I -- I can say at the
10 moment, other than to say thank you to everyone, and we
11 recognize there's a lot of work to be done, and I
12 certainly anticipate that -- that SSI will be actively
13 involved in the very near future. So thank you very
14 much.

15

16 CONTINUED CLOSING COMMENTS BY INAC:

17 MS. TERESA JOUDRIE: Hi, Teresa Joudrie
18 for INAC. I -- I made a few notes, so if -- if you'll
19 indulge, I may ramble, but I will endeavour to speak
20 slowly.

21 First of all, I'd like to thank -- thank
22 you all for the opportunity to participate, to listen and
23 to hear from those of you who are intimately connected
24 with this land.

25 Personally, I'm proud to have had the

1 opportunity to be here this week. It's -- it's nice to
2 be part of something bigger than just what I -- what I am
3 or what I do.

4 I look forward to seeing a plan that not
5 only lets this region survive, but really thrive. And
6 one (1) of the things that I was so really impressed by
7 is how future-focussed the group of people that have been
8 in this room have been, that it's not just about what the
9 present is, but it's about what the future looks like, in
10 part based on the past.

11 And I think over the past three (3) days
12 I've -- I've managed to learn a lot. We may not have
13 always agreed, I think that's something that just
14 happens, but at least we talked or at least started the
15 conversation about the things we don't agree about. And
16 I think it's going to be important that we continue to
17 talk about what we may not see completely eye-to-eye on.

18 I believe that we all -- we're actually
19 closer than we may appear on our perspectives, so I think
20 that the -- the conversations and the discussions moving
21 forward will be integral.

22 From INAC's perspective, and my own, we
23 look forward to seeing a plan that's practi -- practical
24 and that can be implementable, and a plan that really
25 represents the voices of the region.

1 I'd like to thank the Elders for sharing
2 their stories. I love hearing from Elders. It's just
3 something about it that makes me feel more connected.

4 I'd like to thank the organizers, the
5 translators, our sound techs, the caterers -- because I
6 can't forget about the people who feed me -- and most of
7 all, I -- I really want to thank all of the participants
8 here for being open, for sharing and, in some cases,
9 sharing things that, you know, you may not always want to
10 share with strangers, but you've shared them nonetheless,
11 and for being engaged.

12 I look forward to continuing to working
13 with the Board and all of you on a plan that looks like
14 something we all believe in.

15 I have a -- a recommendation that the
16 discussions on implementation and moving forward on
17 implementation happen sooner than later, because I think
18 that will really help -- help everything make sense for
19 everyone.

20 And I don't think there's anything in this
21 Plan that is insurmountable, so kudos on the Board for
22 pulling this together and kudos on everyone who has
23 participated. It's simply amazing, is all I can say, and
24 I'm really proud to have been here and -- and to be a
25 part of it. So thank you.

1 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. It's
2 always helpful to have words of encouragement from our
3 Elders and staff and keep moving forward, not lose faith.

4 Is there anybody else that have any more
5 comments or closing? Paul, do you wish to have a few
6 words of hope and glory?

7

8 CLOSING COMMENTS BY SAHTU LAND AND WATER BOARD:

9 MR. PAUL DIXON: Bob want -- Bob wanted
10 me to give my full legal name again, so it's Paul Robert
11 Dixon, just for everyone -- just the three (3) names.
12 No, nothing else.

13 I guess, what can I say that hasn't
14 already been said? I -- I thank everyone that's
15 organized this wonderful meeting. I actually believe
16 that there's been significant process, as John mentioned,
17 both prior to this meeting, and here. It's been
18 excellent having everyone's perspective presented, and
19 getting kind of that holistic view from the Elders, and
20 the communities, as well as the Board.

21 I just want -- I guess the only thing that
22 I would like to say is that the idea for an
23 implementation strategy or a meeting in the future is
24 definitely important to us, the regulator here in the
25 Sahtu, because in the end whatever the Board decides,

1 we'd like to ensure that it's well implemented for the
2 people of the Sahtu.

3 So that's about it. Thank you again.

4

5 (BRIEF PAUSE)

6

7 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Paul.

8 That was good. Is there any from the audience that might
9 want to say a few words, and to close? Sorry.

10 Alasdair...? Thanks.

11

12 CLOSING COMMENTS BY ALASDAIR VEITCH:

13 MR. ALASDAIR VEITCH: Yeah, it's Alasdair
14 Veitch. I'm with GNWT, but I'm not speaking formally on
15 behalf of GNWT. Mark and Joel already did that.

16 I've been involved with the Land Use
17 Planning Board staff and the Board since 1996, I guess.
18 For the last fifteen (15) years, we've been pretty
19 heavily involved, myself and my -- my staff, and it's
20 nice to see us at this point now.

21 Back a few years ago we also worked very
22 closely on the Sahtu Atlas. I know Debbie was heavily
23 involved in that, and we managed to pull that off, and it
24 was something that people from outside the Sahtu looked
25 and said, Hey, there's something really special here.

1 You know, you guys have got something going here.

2 And I see the same thing happening here
3 today with the Land Use Plan. We've got something here
4 that people from outside can look at, and say, You've
5 done something really significant for a big chunk of an
6 important part of Canada. So it -- it's really nice to
7 be at that point.

8 And you asked about the one (1) thing that
9 we've heard and that we can incorporate ourselves. Some
10 of the people have mentioned -- I know Maurice did and
11 J.B. did, Gabe did, we hear it from the Elders all the
12 time when I do meetings taking about wildlife.

13 They say, It's great that you're talking
14 here among these people, but we want the youth to hear
15 about it, the young people. We had a workshop here back
16 in 2002, and that workshop lead to us starting going to
17 the schools every year for two (2) weeks, on the winter
18 road, and we talked to all the kids from kindergarten to
19 grade 12 about what we do as biologists, and about the
20 wildlife studies that we do, where we do it, why we do
21 it, how we do it, that type of thing.

22 And we have talked about protected areas,
23 too, because for a while I had a protected areas strategy
24 coordinator working in my office, so she came and talked
25 about what PAS was, and a little bit about land use

1 planning.

2 So I guess one (1) suggestion I'd have is
3 that maybe the Board, or staff, and even myself when I go
4 around, we try to incorporate some of the Land Use Plan
5 issues with the kids, because it is about them, right.
6 So get them interested and talking about what a land use
7 plan is, and why it's important. So I guess that would
8 be my one (1) thing that I suggest to the Board, and
9 we'll try to do it, too.

10 And that's -- and thanks very much,
11 everybody. It really has been great.

12

13 (BRIEF PAUSE)

14

15 THE CO-CHAIRPERSON: Thank you. That's a
16 wonderful idea. I think it's good to have that type of
17 information for our future generations.

18 So is there anybody else that want to say
19 some -- a few words?

20 If I may, I could probably say a few
21 comments, as well, just to hopefully keep the spirit of -
22 - of engagement and trying to move forward.

23 Again, so anyhow, I would like to say that
24 I think front and foremost, as a Board member, and -- and
25 from the Deline, and from -- from the region, I think I'm

1 really not a fan of -- of titles, of saying I'm from
2 here, I'm from there, I work for this, I work for this
3 company, I work for this agency, because in the end of
4 the day, we are a people that need to live in this land
5 and we need to work together in that light where
6 grandmothers, our grandfathers, our aunts and uncles, our
7 brothers and sisters.

8 We need to remember that whole reality.
9 Sometimes we get caught up in titles and this is my
10 jurisdiction, this is the way we need to work this area.
11 Ultimately, we want to work together for the well being
12 of human beings in this land. So we need to remind
13 ourselves that.

14 The other point I want to make is that the
15 gas project, the pipeline, might happen sooner than we
16 think. So with that in mind, it gives us another reason
17 to say we need to complete this Plan and move forward.
18 And SSI and everybody around the table really need to
19 understand and we need to get this Plan done.

20 And that leads me to another point is:
21 Our caribou, our birds, our animals, our water, aren't
22 they more important than the words that we can write on
23 paper? So we need to really bring that back to us again,
24 back to reality. And what is important? Is the words
25 important, or our animals, something that we can touch,

1 we can feel, we can feed our children or our
2 grandchildren?

3 So I really want to thank the Elders to
4 come here, listen to us. I know sometimes it's hard for
5 them to sit through a lot of the words and things that
6 may not mean anything to them, but they bring us back to
7 reality. They bring us back to the simple life that we
8 need to keep it simple.

9 I really want to thank them for them
10 coming and having the patience to put up with us, as
11 people want to get technical and stuff, and I really want
12 to thank them for speaking to us, sharing their stories
13 with us and, in fact, they are confessing to us their
14 life. They're giving us their spirit. We need to do
15 something with that spirit. We cannot let it hang in the
16 balance and dissipate away.

17 So, in all, I want to thank our staff and
18 the patience of our translators, because they really --
19 we need a really big hand for them. Thank you.

20 Yes, it's a very tough job that they're
21 doing, and we expect them to simultaneously trans -- I
22 cannot ever think about and do the same kind of tasking.
23 Beyond me.

24 And I just want to thank them again and
25 our staff, as well. I think we're really -- the staff is

1 really dedicated, committed to trying to do the best they
2 can. I have every confidence in our staff that they can
3 do the job if we help them. But we, as community
4 members, Board members, grandfathers, grandmothers,
5 fathers and mothers, need to give them that support to
6 complete it so that our children and their children and
7 the unborn would have a place that they can call home.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRPERSON: Thank you, Danny. So
10 I'd like, in closing -- final closing, I'd like to thank
11 the staff, you know, for all their hard work preparing
12 for this Hearing. They've put in a lot of long hours
13 getting prepared for this, so I'd like to thank them for
14 that and, you know, it was well worth it.

15 And the cleaning staff -- Cathy Pope
16 (phonetic), who has been cleaning for us here, and Ray
17 Uka (phonetic) for providing the catering for the last
18 few days, and Sean for doing this transcribing, and the
19 technical crew for the sound -- Kenny and Aron Elton --
20 Kenny Shae and Aron Elton -- and the facilitators, Debbie
21 Simmons and Joanne Barnaby. Start changing people's
22 names here.

23 So I'd really like to thank everybody,
24 and, you know, it was wonderful to hear your point of
25 views on Draft 3, you know, to hear how the Elders are

1 giving us a message on how we need to move forward,
2 recognizing, you know, all the important values that we
3 need to consider in doing that.

4 And all the recommendations that were made
5 from the leadership, you know, community members, it was
6 wonderful to hear that, as well as from INAC staff, GNWT
7 staff, you know, other resource people.

8 It was -- it's wonderful to hear that you
9 do support Draft 3. There -- recognizing we need to work
10 on some issues, but I think it's doable, and we will all
11 work together to achieve that. So thank you. Mahsi.

12

13 (CLOSING PRAYER)

14

15 THE CHAIRPERSON: One (1) more thing. If
16 you haven't completed your evaluation forms yet, if you
17 could please fill them out. They're a little green paper
18 in the back of your package. And give them to Edna, or
19 Joanne, or Debbie. Thank you.

20

21 --- Upon adjourning at 3:19 p.m.

22 Certified Correct

23

24

25 _____
Sean Coleman, Mr.