



Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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SLUP Draft Amendment Application: Ts'udé Njłjné Tuyeta (AM2020-01) Engagement Summary – Tulita

Date: March 19, 2021, 1:00-4:00 PM

Participants:

Justin Stoyko, SLUPB Executive Director

Heidi Wiebe, SLUPB Project Manager

Jenna Grandjambe, SLUPB Admin Clerk

Doug Yallee, Renewable Resources Council, Mayor of Hamlet of Tulita

Gordon Yakeleya, Renewable Resources Council

Clarence Campbell, Tulita Land Corporation

Chief Frank Andrew, Tulita Dene Band

Deborah Simmons, Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

Jessie Yakeleya, Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

Meeting Summary

Meeting started at 1:30 PM

Justin presented information on the scope of the amendment, work to date, and a summary of what the Sahtú Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB) heard during its engagement on the Background Report in the fall of 2020.

Doug: Does watershed protection include the Mackenzie River?

Justin: In the context of Fort Norman Métis Land Corporation comments, this was about the watersheds for the Hume and Ramparts Rivers, south of the Protected Area.

Justin presented a summary of the key amendments.

Doug: How do you know the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and K'asho Got'jne Foundation (KGF) will pick up the protections you are removing from the SLUP?

Heidi: We've flagged these areas (changes to CR #1, CR #5) for the GNWT, the KGF and the Ts'udé Njłjné Tuyeta Management Board (TNTMB) and notified them that they will lose



protection through the Plan, and we're working with the GNWT, especially, to see about adding these protections to their regulations where appropriate, and to make sure they are aware that they need to have the new regulations in force before they can approve this amendment to avoid a gap in protection.

Chief Andrew: Noted the protected area shrunk. Tulita's area (Nááts'Jhch'oh) shrunk too through negotiations with Parks Canada to allow for mineral development.

Chief Andrew: Who is on the TNTMB? Is Government involved?

Justin: Both the GNWT and KGF appoint members to the TNTMB.

Heidi: The Board operates by consensus. The two Parties (KGF and GNWT) refer questions and applications the Board, and the Board considers those and must come to agreement on the answer. They recommend that back to the GNWT and KGF, who then implement that decision, unless they disagree or can't, and then that triggers a dispute resolution process. The Board is just getting started.

Chief Andrew: What kinds of principles do they have to follow?

Heidi: Pulled up the Ts'udé NjIjné Tuyeta Establishment Agreement and read through key clauses of the Purpose section.

Doug: How far does this area go into the mountains?

Justin: It doesn't, it's the foothills.

Justin presented the new CR #21 and changes to CR #7 to capture the range of the caribou herd documented north of the Protected Area.

Chief Andrew: What kinds of values did you look at in that area? Does it have anything to do with tourism? Saoyú-?ehdacho and Nááts'Jhch'oh have big tourism plans.

Justin: Described the values in the area that we have documented – caribou, moose, furbearers, cultural values and sites like campsites, burial sites, traditional trails, archaeological sites. Heidi talked about the big game outfitter leases in the southern part of the protected area and in the proposed Zone 67. Arctic Red River Outfitters and Gana River Outfitters both have outfitting licences within Zone 67 and the southern part of the protected area. Heidi shared Claudia Haas' response regarding the impact of establishment of the protected area on outfitting licences. It doesn't affect harvesting. The Management Plan may document additional values or considerations and apply new conditions to the areas in the future, for example to manage visitors. If the outfitters wanted to build cabins, they'd have to apply to the



Management Board for leases, and use of any resources to build, if harvested from within the Ts'udé Njłjné Tuyeta Protected Area.

Doug: Does the Board have a Terms of Reference:

Heidi: They have an Establishment Agreement, which is a legally binding contract between the GNWT and KGF on how they will manage Tuyeta, Guiding Principles, how they will establish the TNTMB, roles and responsibilities, etc. Its over 50 pages long. They have 5 years to develop the management plan, which started when the agreement was signed in September 2019. So they have to have the plan done by September 2024, but they want to try to get it done in the next year or so.

Doug: How long will it take the SLUPB to complete this amendment?

Justin: We expect to be done by June, but then it has to go to SSI, GNWT and Canada for approval. It won't come into effect until all three Parties have approved it.

Doug: Does the TNTMB get to make their own rules?

Heidi: The Establishment Agreement lays out a description of what has to be included in the Plan and some direction for planning, but basically yes, the Board gets to figure out how it will develop its management plan and what it will say. This is why direction for this area is being removed from the SLUP – we can't have 2 management plans providing direction for the same area or there might be conflict.

Break at 2:30 PM

Resumed at 2:46 PM

Deb: Wants to know more about the caribou range mapped by Fort Good Hope. Justin responded that he sat down with a few residents in Fort Good Hope to map the caribou range. He offered to discuss the work further with her after the meeting.

Deb: Both Fort Good Hope and Colville Lake requested Conservation Zoning in Zone 67. Why did the Board then propose Special Management Zone? Also, can you remind us what a Special Management Zone means.

Justin: Presented the Board's reasons for decision, including:

- There were limited cultural values or sites identified within the areas to be rezoned, while there is high resource potential
- SMZ provides some protection while allowing the opportunity for future development
- The areas are remote and hard to access. Only very rich deposits would be economical to develop, and the K'ahsho Got'ine may want to benefit from such projects



- The proposed zoning is consistent with adjacent zoning, to allow consistent management of values such as wildlife that don't recognize borders.

Justin explained the different zone designations again and what each of them mean. Special Management Zones provide additional site-specific protection to the values identified for that area by requiring proponents to demonstrate that their activity will not impact the reasons for which the zone was established, as identified in the zone descriptions.

Clarence: Do you have an agreement with the Gwich'in to apply the 5 km buffer from CR 21.

Heidi: No, we'll have to add clarification that this is only to be applied within the Sahtu Settlement Area.

Gordon: It would be nice to have more people involved in this meeting, especially young people, and to have you explain about the land use plan again, generally.

Justin: Yes, the SLUPB is planning to start doing annual community information sessions to build general awareness and understanding about the plan. Once we are allowed to gather more freely, it will be easier to provide larger public meetings again.

Clarence: What if we want to move Zone 40 (Shúhtaot'jñę Néné) through a protected area process?

Heidi: You can. Government tends to bring money for research and monitoring, infrastructure, guardian programs, etc. They all seem to follow the same model of using establishment agreements and working Government to Government now. You would have to choose what kind of protection you want and which Government / department you want to partner with, according to their legislation. Then the community would work directly with its government partner (GNWT, Parks Canada or Environment and Climate Change Canada) to establish it under their legislation. The SLUPB would amend the Plan's zoning to recognize this change.

Chief Andrew: How did the SLUPB get started? What do you have left to manage if you're removing direction?

Justin: The SLUPB was established under the *Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (SDMCLCA)* and *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)*. Initially, the Board had fieldworkers in each community, interviewing residents to understand the importance of the land and how people wanted to see it protected or developed. It took almost 15 years to develop. Justin pulled up the overall Sahtu map and showed the remaining areas still under the SLUPB's jurisdiction to plan for – most of the Sahtu. The only remaining areas that might eventually be removed from the plan are the Canol Trail (Zone 39) and Tuktut Nogait (Zone 66), if they are ever fully established as protected areas.



Chief Andrew: I like what Fort Good Hope is doing. It's good.

Meeting ended at 3:20 PM