



# Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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February 5, 2013

To: Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated  
ENR, Government of the Northwest Territories  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

## **Re: Preliminary Screening of the Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan and Implementation Guide**

As requested in the Joint Submission of Comments given to the SLUPB following the Tri-Partite Meeting, the Board is providing a Draft Sahtu Land Use Plan and Implementation Guide (a supporting document) for a 30-day preliminary screening period.

The Board agrees that this step is integral for the Parties' internal review processes. There have been many changes since the 2010 Draft, and this screening period will provide an opportunity for the Parties to understand how comments received have been integrated into the final Draft Plan. As was requested in the Joint Submission, this screening shall be considered informal, and each party shall focus their review and commit to a short timeline. Therefore the Board requests that comments be submitted as they arise. A rolling comment period will provide greater efficiency and flexibility to the SLUPB to address minor issues quickly. In addition, the Parties expressed the need to continue tripartite discussions once a full draft is received (as a way of sharing insights, interests, understanding positions, etc.). The Board is supportive of this approach, and to the extent possible would like comments on the draft documents to be submitted jointly.

As the parties review these documents, the following items should be considered. First, the Parties previously agreed to provide text on CR 15-Ecological Integrity. As this is an outstanding component of the Plan, the Board chose to leave this section of the Plan and Implementation Guide blank. The Board will consider the Parties' CR 15 submission when received, and incorporate it into the final draft Plan prior to submission for approval.

Second, the Draft SLUP remains a working draft and is not formatted for final submission. As per Section 1.6, there is intended to be 3 non-legally binding support documents (Implementation Guide, Background Report, & An Action Plan). During the screening period the Board will be finalizing two of these documents (Background Report and Action Plan). The Background Report will be similar in content and style as previous versions. The Action Plan is being written as a new document. It will serve as a Board guidance tool for ongoing planning activities looking forward to the 5-year Plan review. Its purpose is to house elements of the planning process that were deemed important to stakeholders, but not sufficiently developed to be included in the final SLUP that will be submitted for approval. During the screening period the SLUPB will continue to refine all documents, and as appropriate will update the parties on the status of significant developments.



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With the mutual goal of finalizing the SLUP in a timely manner, please direct all questions and comments to Scott Paszkiewicz (Land Use Planner/Executive Director) before March 7, 2012. He can be reached at [exec\\_director@sahtulanduseplan.org](mailto:exec_director@sahtulanduseplan.org) or 867-598-2055.

Mahsi,

Heather Bourassa, Chairperson  
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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