



# Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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December 17, 2015

**To: Sahtu Land Use Planning Partners**

**Re: Update on the Sahtu Land Use Plan Amendment Process**

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In 2015 the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (“SLUPB” or “Board”) initiated a process to amend the Sahtu Land Use Plan (SLUP) following the creation of the Nááts’ihch’oh National Park Reserve.

### What happened in 2015

The process began with the gathering of relevant data and information on the Nááts’ihch’oh Proposed Conservation Initiative (Zone 41). This information was used to prepare a Background Report for public comment. This report was issued in April, and the Board accepted public comments through August. The Board hosted three public meetings in July in Tulita, Norman Wells and Yellowknife. A written summary report of public input was produced and posted to the registry.

In August and September, the Board met to review all information and public comments, and prepared a Draft Amendment Application (Draft). As this is the first SLUP amendment process, the Draft was shared with the three *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA) approval parties: The Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated, Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Lands, and Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (formerly AANDC). The intent was to give the parties 60-days to provide comments on the Draft in order to identify any obstacles to approval.

### Where we are now

The response from the approval parties was a request for additional time to review the Draft. During the December meeting, the Board granted an extension to the parties. Their comments are now due by February 8, 2016. During this time, the Board has decided to post the Draft to the on-line registry. For clarity, the Board is not inviting public comments at this time.

### Next steps

The SLUPB will now wait and consider any comments received from the approval parties. When new information is available, the Board will inform all interested planning partners of the process’s next steps and future opportunities to provide input.

Any questions on the SLUP Amendment Process should be directed to Scott Paszkiewicz, Executive Director at [exec\\_director@sahtulanduseplan.org](mailto:exec_director@sahtulanduseplan.org) or 867-598-2055. All documents pertinent to the process can be found on the SLUPB’s online registry:

[www.sahtulanduseplan.org/am2015-01](http://www.sahtulanduseplan.org/am2015-01)

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