



**Safeguarding
CARIBOU**
since 1982

**Beverly and Qamanirjuaq
Caribou Management Board**

BQCMB MEETING #88

NOVEMBER 5-7, 2019
ARVIAT, NUNAVUT



People and Caribou

New BQCMB Member

Simon Enuapik, from Whale Cove, NU, is the newest member of the BQCMB.



He is the Chair of the Is-satik HTO in Whale Cove, and was appointed by the Kivalliq Wildlife Board to represent the communities in the Kivalliq region.

Farewell

The BQCMB was saddened to hear of the passing of two friends recently.

Sam Boucher of Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN), NWT left Dettah (near Yellowknife) on May 13 with his daughter Cammy, 23 and and Jake Gully, 28, originally from Ft. Good Hope NWT and was planning to travel by snow machine back home overnight. When they failed to arrive at Lutsel K'e the next day they were reported missing.



His body was found on May 20 following an extensive aerial search effort by the RCMP and volunteers with the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association.

Cammy Boucher and Gully remain missing.

Sam represented LKDFN at several BQCMB meetings. He was very experienced on the land and knew the region well. He was 65.

Pierre Robillard, of Black Lake, SK passed away on June 18 at the age of 77 years. Robillard was an alternate member of the BQCMB for years and attended many board meetings.



"He was a great advocate for caribou and his people," said Chair Earl Evans. "He will be sadly missed."

Photo by Ron Merasty

Minister Visits BQCMB

The BQCMB was pleased to welcome the Honourable Rochelle Squires, Manitoba Minister of Sustainable Development, to its spring 2019 meeting.

In her remarks, the Minister acknowledged the Board's successful work of coordinating the management and conservation of two barren-ground caribou herds since 1982. "The work you do for the shared management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds is a model we are hoping to emulate in the Province of Manitoba," she said.

She also promised Manitoba would reinstate its 2012 commitment to provide annual operating funding to the Board. "Manitoba has made the decision to be a full partner with the funding commitment from the Province of Manitoba. I'm here today to let you know we will be a full contributor on a go-forward basis."

The BQCMB met with Minister Squires last fall, where Chair Earl Evans described some of the challenges facing the herds and explained the need for complete support from all five government parties, including the Province of Manitoba.

The BQCMB followed this up with a similar discussion with Deputy Minister Lin Gallagher of Saskatchewan's Ministry of Environment in March 2019. She indicated Saskatchewan would also meet the full amount of its funding and member support commitments.

The Board hopes these developments point to a renewed commitment to the BQCMB for both operational funding and necessary support for all members to attend each bi-annual Board meeting. Both are stipulated in the Board's Management Agreement. "We haven't been able to meet in Nunavut for 14 years due to difficulty obtaining out-of-province travel approvals for Board members from Saskatchewan and Manitoba," Evans noted.

With the BQCMB's 2012-2022 Management Agreement set to expire in less than three years, the Board is now looking for confirmation of support for the next 10-year Agreement.



Photos by Lynne Bereza

"Buy-in from all governments is essential for this Board to do its job so that Indigenous people who depend on these herds will have access to them for generations to come."

Earl Evans, Chair, BQCMB with the Honourable Rochelle Squires, Manitoba Minister of Sustainable Development

Evans anticipates that all governments and community partners will see the value of continuing to support the BQCMB.

"With both herds declining, we have to be more vigilant than ever to ensure the important cultural, spiritual and economic relationships between northern peoples and barren-ground caribou are protected," he stressed. "Buy-in from all governments is essential for this Board to do its job so that Indigenous people who depend on these herds will have access to them for generations to come."

Continued on page 7

wildlife management bodies and their processes would remain in effect. That is, responsibility for harvest management would remain with provincial, territorial and Indigenous governments and wildlife management boards (such as the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board).

What restrictions would occur and where would they apply?

Dar further explained that any new federal prohibitions on killing/possessing caribou resulting from listing under SARA would apply only to non-Section 35 rights holders. In the territories these restrictions would apply only in National Parks, National Wildlife Areas and Migratory Bird Sanctuaries, and in the provinces they would apply on all federal lands. This statement caused concern, as First Nations reserves are considered federal lands. There was also uncertainty about possible automatic prohibitions on federal lands.

He later re-emphasized that the proposed listing would not supersede Section 35 rights, and that those rights holders would be able to continue to hunt caribou as they do now, with no new restrictions imposed by SARA. However, BQCMB members and guests pointed out that this is not specified explicitly in the SARA.

Dar also explained that if caribou is added to SARA, a national recovery strategy would be required within 2 years of listing, which would be developed cooperatively with First Nations, Inuit, Métis, wildlife management boards, hunters and trappers organizations, provincial and territorial governments, and others. The strategy would include measures to reduce harm resulting from known threats to caribou and habitat and would set objectives for the recovery of populations and their distribution.

He confirmed that if provincial/territorial governments do not take action to ensure their laws adequately protect species listed under SARA on non-federal lands, prohibitions under SARA could be applied, potentially overriding Section 35 harvest rights. He again emphasized that directly affected parties would be closely consulted by the federal government and that wildlife management boards and Indigenous organizations would play a "very close role" in this decision-making process.

This 'safety net' process caused further anxiety for BQCMB members around the table. It was determined that the Board will again follow-up with federal officials to try to obtain written answers to its most pressing questions. And while there is still plenty of opportunity to submit formal and informal comments and questions to the SARA process, until something is received that clearly explains the process and its implications for harvesting rights, these anxieties are likely to remain.

Differences and Similarities

The federal and territorial SAR processes have some key differences, but also some similarities. Find out more at:

<https://arctic-caribou.com/caribou-at-risk/>



Benefits of Listing Under Federal SAR

Environment and Climate Change Canada—Canadian Wildlife Service (ECCC-CWS)

Although the federal proposal to designate barren-ground caribou under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) is causing concern for BQCMB members and others, there are some potential benefits to listing.

The goal is to conserve caribou

In the broadest terms, SARA shares the same over-arching goals that are also those of the caribou boards and management agencies. Specifically to:

- Ensure that barren-ground caribou herds continue to exist in Canada for present and future generations;
- Help recover population numbers; and
- Address the factors which have caused population declines.

Coordinated planning approach

SARA requires a national Recovery Strategy to be developed cooperatively with all key management partners (i.e., Provincial/Territorial governments, Wildlife Management Boards, affected Indigenous groups, etc.).

- In many cases, barren-ground caribou herds are already well-managed, the key management partners are already engaged, and herd-specific management plans have been developed prior to listing under SARA. In these cases, existing plans can be incorporated into the federal Recovery Strategy, and the needs and unique context of each herd can be treated separately in the Recovery Strategy.
- However, in some cases where herds occur across provincial/territorial borders, management actions and land use may not be coordinated between different jurisdictions. In this case, the development of a national federal Recovery Strategy will encourage all of the key management actors to work together to develop a coordinated approach to managing and conserving caribou.
- If some herds lack a pre-existing plan, then the requirement to develop a federal Recovery Strategy will help to ensure that a plan is developed for those herds, so that all barren-ground herds across the range in Canada have the benefit of a management and conservation plan.

Habitat Protection

- "Critical habitat" (i.e., the important areas that caribou need to survive) needs to be identified in the federal Recovery Strategy if there is enough information to do so, as well as a description of the activities likely to impact it. Once critical habitat is identified, SARA then encourages the various parties to protect it from harm. On provincial/territorial lands, SARA first looks to the provincially or territorially government to ensure that critical habitat is protected. SARA-listed species have a higher profile during Environmental Assessment processes.

Under SARA, environmental Assessments must

- indicate if a listed species or its critical habitat is likely to be affected by a proposed project;
- identify the adverse effects to the species and/or its critical habitat; and,
- ensure that measures are taken to avoid or lessen those effects and to monitor them.

(BQCMB Chair Earl Evans is encouraged to hear that habitat protection will be addressed, as "the BQCMB has repeatedly stated that calving and post-calving areas and water crossings are critical habitat.")

Federal Funding

Once SARA-listed, barren-ground caribou projects may be eligible for funding under different federal programs (e.g., Habitat Stewardship Program; Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk; Canada Nature Fund).

Around the Range

Beverly Caribou Survey Results

The long wait between Beverly herd calving ground surveys is over, and the 2018 results are not positive. Since the last population estimate was developed by the Government of Nunavut (GN) in 2011, the herd has decreased significantly from about 136,600 to about 103,400 animals. This represents a slow decline in herd size of 4-5% per year between 2011-2018.

The survey also showed a decrease in the number of breeding females on the calving ground from 81,000 in 2011 to about 61,000.

As a result of some overlap in the areas used for calving by the Beverly and Ahiak herds, a re-analysis of the 2011 survey results was conducted. The latest estimates include Adelaide Peninsula animals, which were not included in the original Beverly herd estimate for 2011).

Improved survey methods and the use of satellite collars result in more precise surveys than in the past, and the GN is highly confident the numbers are accurate.

NWT Winter Road Observations

Evidence continues to mount that roads, including winter roads, are a threat to caribou. During the last BQCMB meeting, both Chair Earl Evans and Lutsel K'e, NWT representative Jennifer Jonasson shared observations from NWT winter roads. Jonasson shared a Traditional Knowledge Monitoring Report by Lutsel K'e members, who observed caribou near the mine access road from Gahcho Kue mine to McKay Lake in March 2019:

- The berm portion of the road is a barrier in the caribou's ability to travel on their traditional migration routes
- Each day 300-500 caribou followed the boundary of the berm, rather than crossing cross the 5 foot high barrier, which led them directly to the hunting zone.
- Over a 5 km stretch a truck was observed every 500 m, with over 45 trucks lined up on one day waiting for the caribou to cross into the hunting zone.
- Many hunters observed were not following traditional hunting protocols, and drug and alcohol use was also observed.

- Wastage of caribou meat and garbage left on the ice road were also observed.

Jonasson noted, "All the hunters observed in this area shot the caribou 2-3 km from the ice road and cleaned them on the ice road and didn't take them to the land, which is one of the protocols of respecting our caribou. There is no monitoring or enforcement of illegal hunting. The government is not following through on what they should be doing to protect our caribou."

Chair Earl Evans added: "That road is a line of trucks, as far as you can see is lights. Do you think a caribou is going to try and cross there? They kept getting forced closer and closer to that road until they were trapped."



Photo by Katelyn Luff

Contaminants in Caribou Update

The Northern Contaminants Program's work on barren-ground caribou, led by research scientist Mary Gamberg with the help of local hunters, has been taking tissue samples of Qamanirjuaq caribou since 2006. The samples are used to study changes in the levels of contaminants – which may be carried to the Arctic by wind - in kidneys and livers of caribou.

With the latest samples collected by hunters from Arviat, NU in 2018, kidneys were tested for mercury, cadmium, copper, arsenic, selenium and lead, while livers were tested for PBDEs and PFASs (flame retardants and toxic industrial chemicals). The results show that while some caribou have mercury and cadmium in their organs, caribou meat has very low level of contaminants.

Continued monitoring will help to make sure that laws controlling pollution are effective for protecting Arctic wildlife.

Kivalliq Harvest Reporting Project

Since 2017, the BQCMB has been working with Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut to develop an approach for obtaining information about harvest of Qamanirjuaq caribou. HTOs from Arviat, Baker Lake and Whale Cove agreed to participate in the initial phase of the project and Rankin Inlet agreed to provide information based on its own reporting system.

Much was learned during the first year of the project, as challenges including funding delays, limited HTO capacity, and logistical issues resulted in a late start. In August 2018 an information package and harvest calendar (in English and Inuktitut) were delivered to HTOs.

The Arviat HTO successfully implemented the project, while others were either unable to hire local interviewers or staff capacity was not available. However, all participants have re-committed to continuing the project for 2019. A new harvest calendar has been created, and the focus will be on supporting the Arviat HTO with their harvester interviews, and on communicating with and supporting the efforts of Baker Lake, Aqigiq (Chesterfield Inlet), and Issatik (Whale Cove) HTOs to initiate work in their communities. The BQCMB will also be collaborating with the Kangiqliq (Rankin Inlet) HTO as they develop their own harvest reporting project.

The BQCMB is grateful to the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan and WWF-Canada for supporting the Kivalliq Harvest Reporting Project. While much work remains to determine how to make the project work in some communities, the success demonstrated by the Arviat HTO's work shows it is feasible.

Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a frequent agenda item at BQCMB meetings. Both the NWT and Saskatchewan governments have fact sheets on CWD on their websites. •

NWT: www.enr.gov.nt.ca/sites/enr/files/resources/faq_chronic_wasting_disease_march_2019_en.pdf

SK: www.saskatchewan.ca/business/agriculture-natural-resources-and-industry/agribusiness-farmers-and-ranchers/livestock/animal-health-and-welfare/chronic-wasting-disease

Youth and Caribou

Elder and Youth Caribou Culture Camp

Tina Giroux, biologist with Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation, made a presentation to the Board's spring 2019 meeting about an Elder and Youth Caribou Culture Camp. The camp took place from April 5-9, 2019. The purpose of the camp is to get youth out on the land for a caribou hunt.

This year, Fond du Lac was the host community. Previous camps have been held in areas such as Cochrane River, SK and Selwyn Lake, NWT. The organizers took the kids further than ever this year – to Fraser Lake, NWT.

Kids from Black Lake, Fond du Lac and Hatchet Lake were flown in to the camp – an exciting event in itself – and accompanied by chaperones and two Elders, one man and one woman.

Caribou had been in the area very recently, but had left by the time the campers arrived. So while the kids couldn't go on an actual caribou hunt, they were still able to learn about caribou because there were 7 caribou at the camp that had been harvested earlier.

With 27 youth between the ages of 14-19, the camp was busy. "There was lots going on," says Giroux. One of the first tasks for the kids was to build smoke racks, to learn how to dry and smoke meat. They debarked branches to make the rack. Camp helpers cut wood and got water, while a cabin nearby provided a place for food preparation. "The kids ate lots of country food – caribou and fish were the main meals," Giroux.

The whole camp stayed in canvas tents, and during the evenings the youth and Elders spent more time together. The Elders would share stories with the kids, and use that time to pass on their knowledge in a traditional way – the most important part of any culture camp.



Photos by Tina Giroux



The BQCMB's On-The-Land-Camp program partially funded this camp! For more information or to apply for funding, visit

arctic-caribou.com/education/

Attention Grade 7-12 Students!

The BQCMB will hold not one but **two** Poster and Prose contests for Gr. 7-12 youth this fall. Contests will be held in schools on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou range, one in the NWT and the other in northern Saskatchewan. The contests will again focus on the theme of "You Can Make a Difference – Caribou For the Future" and students will be asked to submit a poster or essay on one of three topics:

- Respectful caribou harvest
- The importance of harvest reporting
- Cumulative effects on caribou

Information will be sent to eligible schools in September 2019 and the contest will be judged during the BQCMB's November 2019 meeting.

For more information visit arctic-caribou.com/education/



New Initiative to

Protect Caribou Habitat in Northern Manitoba

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), Manitoba Chapter

Four First Nations are partnering to protect a pristine expanse of tundra, coastal wetlands and forests in Northern Manitoba. Ernie Bussidor, BQCMB alternate member from Sayisi Dene First Nation, and Ron Thiessen, Executive Director of the Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), presented the protected area proposal to the Board at the spring 2019 meeting.

The Seal River Watershed is an important wintering ground for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds and is home to at least 23 known species at risk — including beluga whales, polar bears, wolverines, narwhals, killer whales, olive-sided flycatchers and lake sturgeon.

“Our vision is to ensure our grandchildren’s grandchildren have the opportunity to engage in traditional practices such as hunting, fishing and serving as guardians of the land, waters and animals within a healthy watershed,” said Ernie Bussidor, a former chief who was appointed by Sayisi Dene First Nation to lead the initiative.

Sayisi Dene First Nation is working in partnership with Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Barren Lands First Nation and O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation to protect the entirety of the Seal River Watershed from industrial activity as an Indigenous Protected Area. The Nations, which signed an agreement in principle earlier this year, are hoping to formally engage and partner with Kivalliq Inuit on the initiative.

At more than 50,000 square kilometers, the Seal River Watershed constitutes 0.5 percent of Canada and eight percent of Manitoba.

There are three main concerns regarding the well-being of the Seal River Watershed:

- A lack of formalized stewardship by Indigenous peoples.
- Interest shown by mining companies seeking access to explore uranium and gold deposits in the watershed.
- Access to the region that would be provided by a proposed road to Nunavut.

Concern for the caribou — whose populations have been declining for decades — spurred the Sayisi Dene to launch the initiative in 2016.

“Every aspect of our Dene and Cree cultures, spirituality and identities are rooted in our relationship to the caribou and to the lands which sustain us,” Bussidor said.

The Nations are working to establish an Indigenous Guardians program in the watershed. Guardians protect sensitive areas and species, monitor ecological health, and maintain cultural sites. They serve as ambassadors to welcome visitors to the region and teach them about the local culture, land, waters, and wildlife. And they promote intergenerational sharing of Indigenous knowledge by helping train the next generation of educators and nation builders.

The Nations are hoping to work with the BQCMB to establish a harvest monitoring program in the region to support the board’s broader objectives of ensuring the long-term conservation of the herds and the livelihoods that depend on them.

For more information please visit:

www.SealRiverWatershed.ca

What is an Indigenous Protected Area?



An Indigenous Protected Area conserves ecosystems and biodiversity while supporting sustainable and culturally appropriate human uses. The federal government has pledged to support the development of “many” Indigenous Protected Areas as it strives to help Canada advance reconciliation, fight climate change and meet its commitments to protect 17 percent of our lands and fresh waters by 2020.

Source: www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/news/2018/10/first-new-indigenous-protected-area-in-canada-edehzhie-protected-area.html

Indigenous Protected Areas in Canada

The first Indigenous Protected Area in Canada is the Edézhíe Protected Area and National Wildlife Area in the NWT, which has been under development for decades by the Dehcho First Nations of the NWT with the Canadian Wildlife Service. The Edézhíe Protected Area was established in 2018 and covers about 14,200 square kilometres. The National Wildlife Area designation is expected in 2020.

Another proposed protected area is Thaidene Néné, a 26,300 square kilometer area designated ‘protected’ under Lutsel K’e Denesuline laws. If designated under federal and territorial legislation, it will be made up of three different protected areas: a National Park Reserve (14,100 sq. km.), a territorial protected area (9,100 sq. km.) and a territorial Wildlife Conservation Area (3,100 sq. km.).

In addition, the Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation is hoping to achieve Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area status for up to 500,000 ha within its traditional territory, which includes portions of northern Saskatchewan, NWT and Nunavut.

More details on the Thaidene Nene and Athabasca Denesuline Indigenous Protected Area initiatives will follow in the next issue of Caribou News in Brief.

Meet the BQCMB Member:

Ernie Bussidor

Ernie, the son of Mina Bussidor (a Sayisi Dene) and Ronald Geoffrey Wheeler (a US Army Corporal) was born in Fort Churchill Hospital in 1956. He is an alternate member of the BQCMB.

As an infant, Ernie and his older brother Carl Geoffrey were adopted by their maternal grandparents, Peter and Mary Bussidor. Peter and Mary were Dene elders who taught Ernie all aspects of Dene history, culture and language. He was also taught how to hunt, fish and sustain himself off the land. Ernie learned the drum songs by listening to the elders and was taught the ancient stories of life on the land through his grandparents in stories handed down through the generations.

The dark years of Dene Village, Churchill remain with him. After attending high school in Winnipeg, Ernie moved to Tadoule Lake in December 1974. It was to be the last stronghold for the Sayisi Dene First Nation and it was Utopia. Caribou were in abundance and the lakes were teeming with fish of all species. Moose were plentiful, and living in log cabins was the way of life for a number of years.

Ernie has resided in Tadoule for most of his adult life, and continues to this day. He is an avid adventurer and canoeist. He has paddled all three arms of the Seal River and can attest to its rugged, natural beauty. Ernie became particularly interested in preserving this

great river after he paddled with a group of community youth to Churchill in August 2017. That is when he became convinced that this heritage river and its watershed should be protected from industrial developments.

Ernie has worked in many capacities in the small reserve of the Sayisi Dene First Nation (formerly Fort Churchill Band). He was elected for three terms as Chief, and twice as Councillor in his 20+ years in leadership. He was also employed as Band Store Manager, ran his own business, worked as Airport Manager, and is an avid carpenter and soapstone artist.

Ernie is currently serving as the Patrol Commander for the Canadian Ranger Patrol Group Tadoule Lake and also works as a Dene Translator for the North of 60 Dene Land Claims process.

Ernie is in the process of building cabins for teachings by elders on the lake and plans to apply for the BQCMB "On the Land" Program to help with costs.

Source: <https://sealriverwatershed.ca/leader/>

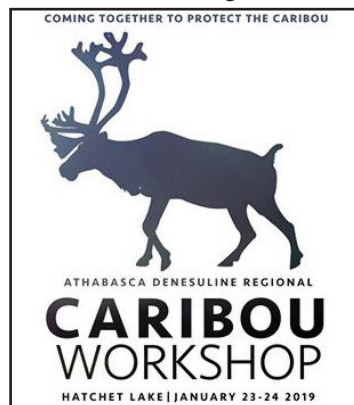


Photo by CPAWS Manitoba

"People and Caribou" - Continued from page 2

Athabasca Denesuline Regional Caribou Workshop

The proposed federal designation of barren-ground caribou as a Threatened species under the Species at Risk Act prompted the Athabasca Denesuline to hold a Regional Caribou Workshop in January 2019. Over



180 delegates attended from Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation, Black Lake Denesuline First Nation, Hatched Lake Dene Nation, Northlands Denesuline First Nation, and Sayisi Dene First Nation. Leaders from the Prince Albert Grand Council (representing 12 First Nations in northern Saskatchewan) and Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (representing the 74 First Nations across Saskatchewan) also attended.

The group passed a resolution concerning barren-ground caribou management planning:

Therefore be it resolved that the Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation identify funding and work with the communities to develop an Athabasca Denesuline specific barrenground caribou management plan framework to address the decline of the populations and to provide traditional and modern solutions in moving forward.

ECCC-CWS staff attended the workshop to listen and learn from Indigenous participants, and to obtain feedback on the federal SARA list-

ing proposal. **Wendy Eskowich** from ECCC summarized the key messages they heard during the workshop to the spring 2019 BQCMB meeting as follows:

- "We are not just talking about caribou numbers; it is our way of life, our culture; we are the caribou people."
- Caribou and their habitat need to be protected and conserved.
- The Dene communities want to work collectively to help the caribou and also want to work with Inuit.
- Traditional values and practices and rights must be respected
- Respectful harvesting protocols are important
- Passing on TK to youth is important; caution them about social media postings.
- Caribou needs to remain wild

She noted much of the information received was similar to that received from other jurisdiction and groups.

Potential Threats to Caribou:

- Mining/drilling/exploration activities in caribou habitat affects calving migration and habitat itself.
- Concerned about contaminants in environment/meat
- Destruction of caribou habitat by wildfire/concern about fire management policy
- Commercial harvest
- Commercial sale/meat processing in Rankin Inlet
- Sport hunting
- Climate change – insects, habitat/food

Eskowich also stressed that the ECCC and the communities have a common goal: to ensure that caribou continue to exist.

New Website and Video

Thanks to generous funding from Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, the BQCMB has developed new and improved communications tools.

New Website at arctic-caribou.com

A completely re-designed and updated BQCMB website launched in May 2019, users can:

- Find out more about BQCMB range communities;
- See at a glance what the BQCMB's most pressing issues are;
- Explore BQCMB Education initiatives (including new resources for both teachers and students)
- And much more! Please visit the site let us know what you think.

New Video!

The BQCMB's new video was created to educate and inform people about the work of the Board, to describe the status of the herds, and to encourage our government parties to start thinking about the next 10-year Management Agreement.

View the video at arctic-caribou.com/new-bqcmb-video/ or by searching 'BQCMB' on YouTube.

Heard around the BQCMB Table:

"We have governments providing us money to conserve caribou, then we have the territorial governments trying to pass bills to fast-track permits. What used to take years now takes months. We're getting mixed messages here."

BQCMB Chair Earl Evans, Fort Smith Métis Nation, NWT

"The ten commandments of caribou hunting protocols aren't being followed. Wastage is a huge problem. It's out of control."

Napoleon Denescheszhe, Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet, MB

"As people of the land we have to prove to others that we're responsible. Wastage, overkilling, leaving caribou, chasing caribou, everything you're not supposed to do – our people are doing it. People say, 'oh it's the sport hunters and resident hunters that are doing that', so they cut out the sport tags and resident tags and it continues still."

BQCMB Chair Earl Evans

"We don't waste meat; we are trying to teach our kids not to leave a bone on the land."

Simon Enuapik, Issatik HTO, Whale Cove, NU

"For the last 3 years in Tadoule caribou's been kind of like a delicacy. If I get a hindquarter from Lac Brochet it's split 5 ways between my kids and grandkids."

Ernie Bussidor, Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake, MB

"Stress on caribou is stress on us. Impacts on caribou impacts us." Chief Louis Mercredi, Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation, SK

Pictured at right, top to bottom:

Hugh Nateela, Baker Lake HTO (centre) and other BQCMB guests review a map
Dene Drummers from Lac Brochet, MB performing at the spring BQCMB meeting
Dan Shewchuk (l), Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and Tagak Curley, Kivalliq Inuit Association
Tim Trottier, Gov. of SK (r) with Saleem Dar, ECCC-CWS

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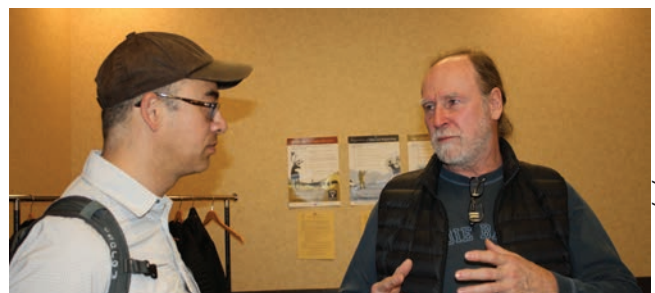
Caribou News in Brief is published by the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board.
ISSN 1489-3436.

Opinions expressed are those of the editor and contributors.
Back issues available at www.arctic-caribou.com. Comments and suggestions may be sent to:
Caribou News in Brief, c/o Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

Executive Director: Ross Thompson, P.O. Box 629, Stonewall MB R0C 2Z0
E-mail: rossthompson@mymts.net

or

Editor: Lynne Bereza at caribounews@outlook.com
Website: www.arctic-caribou.com



Photos by Lynne Bereza