



Beverly and Qamanirjuaq
Caribou Management Board

2015 - 2016 ANNUAL REPORT



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ANNUAL REPORT

The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement (2012-2022) requires the Board to submit an annual report which shall include:

- a) a summary of Board activities, recommendations and responses by governments and traditional users;
- b) a review of the state of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their habitat;
- c) a summary of harvests by jurisdiction and community;
- d) a financial statement for the operation of the Board.

LETTER TO MINISTERS

The Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Minister
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Hon. Cathy Cox, Minister
Manitoba Sustainable Development
Legislative Building, Room 330
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

The Hon. Robert C. McLeod, Minister
Department of Environment and Natural Resources, NWT
P.O. Box 1320
Legislative Assembly
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

The Hon. Joe Savikataaq, Minister
Department of Environment, Nunavut
P.O. Box 1200
Legislative Building
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

The Hon. Scott Moe, Minister
Ministry of Environment, Saskatchewan
Legislative Building, Room 315
2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Ministers:

I have the honour of presenting the 34th Annual Report of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, together with the financial statements, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Earl Evans, Chair
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As Chair of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, I'm very proud to report on another year of hard work, milestones and achievements.

The Board was active on a variety of issues this year, including the process to develop a new Nunavut Land Use Plan and the environmental review of AREVA Canada's proposed Kiggavik uranium mine. We also publicly expressed our concern for the status of the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd, which has dropped significantly in size. The Board also continued to monitor the situation arising from the internet trade of caribou meat, which is contributing to the Qamanirjuaq situation.



In this report, herd movement patterns are summarized based on observations from harvesters, other residents of caribou range communities and government biologists. Many factors are adding up to cause serious declines of the herds, and I urge all jurisdictions to make monitoring programs a priority. Assessing the data associated with herd movements and numbers remains one of the biggest challenges for the Board, and unless regular monitoring occurs and proactive measures are taken, herds may decline to the point of no return.

Another area of concern for the BQCMB—and for me personally—is to maintain the strength of the Board, which needs more robust support from all parties. Commitments to the 10-year agreement (see page 46), signed by all ministers from the governments of Canada, Manitoba, Northwest Territories (NWT), Nunavut and Saskatchewan, must be honoured. We have enjoyed strong support from all these and other partners since the Board began in 1982, and with the many issues and challenges facing the BQCMB and the great barren-ground caribou, this commitment must be strengthened, not weakened. Moving forward, I hope our dialogues over the last year with respective ministers and senior staff will address our concerns. At the same time, the Board appreciates the additional funding provided for various projects beyond the core Agreement amounts from the governments of NWT and Canada.

On a personal note I'd like to highlight the contributions made by a few individuals. We often wait until people leave an organization to thank them for their service, but this year we would like to acknowledge two people who have been working diligently on behalf of the Board for decades. Tim Trottier (below centre) has represented the Government of Saskatchewan and ardently advocated for traditional caribou harvesters since 1983. Biologist Leslie Wakelyn (below right) has undertaken contract work for the Board every year for 20 years. I thank them both for their dedication and perseverance. Having long-serving people associated with the Board provides a strong corporate memory and continuity as we face new challenges and opportunities.

We also said farewell to two long-standing board members this past year. Albert Thorassie (below far left) of the Sayisi Dene First Nation (Tadoule Lake, MB) stepped down after more than three decades of service on the Board, and George Tsannie (below left) from Hatchet Lake Denesuline First Nation (Wollaston Lake, SK) also moved on. We thank them for their dedication to the board.

In closing, I'd like to reiterate what I've said many times to the people who contribute to the Board in multiple ways. In addition to all who are directly associated with our organization, residents from the small northern communities who depend on barren-ground caribou for their livelihoods are the true voice of the land. The experience of the people who live, work, and raise their families here—contributing their advice, knowledge and guidance—is invaluable to our work.

Earl Evans, Chair
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board



BQCMB MISSION STATEMENT

To safeguard the caribou of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds for traditional users who wish to maintain a lifestyle that includes the use of caribou, as well as for all Canadians and people of other nations.



ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

ADNLC	Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation
BQCMB	Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
CNIB	Caribou News in Brief
DOE	Department of Environment, GN
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
ENR	Environment and Natural Resources, GNWT
FSIN	Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
GN	Government of Nunavut
GNWT	Government of the Northwest Territories
GOM	Government of Manitoba
GOS	Government of Saskatchewan
INAC	Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
KIA	Kivalliq Inuit Association
KWB	Kivalliq Wildlife Board
LKDFN	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation
MNS	Metis Nation Saskatchewan
MOE	Ministry of Environment, GOS
MSD	Manitoba Sustainable Development, GOM
NIRB	Nunavut Impact Review Board
NRI	Nunavut Research Institute
NWMB	Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
NWT	Northwest Territories
PAGC	Prince Albert Grand Council

PROFILE

The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB) is composed of hunters, biologists, and land and wildlife managers. The Board has advised governments, communities and many others since 1982 on ways to safeguard the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds of northern Canada.

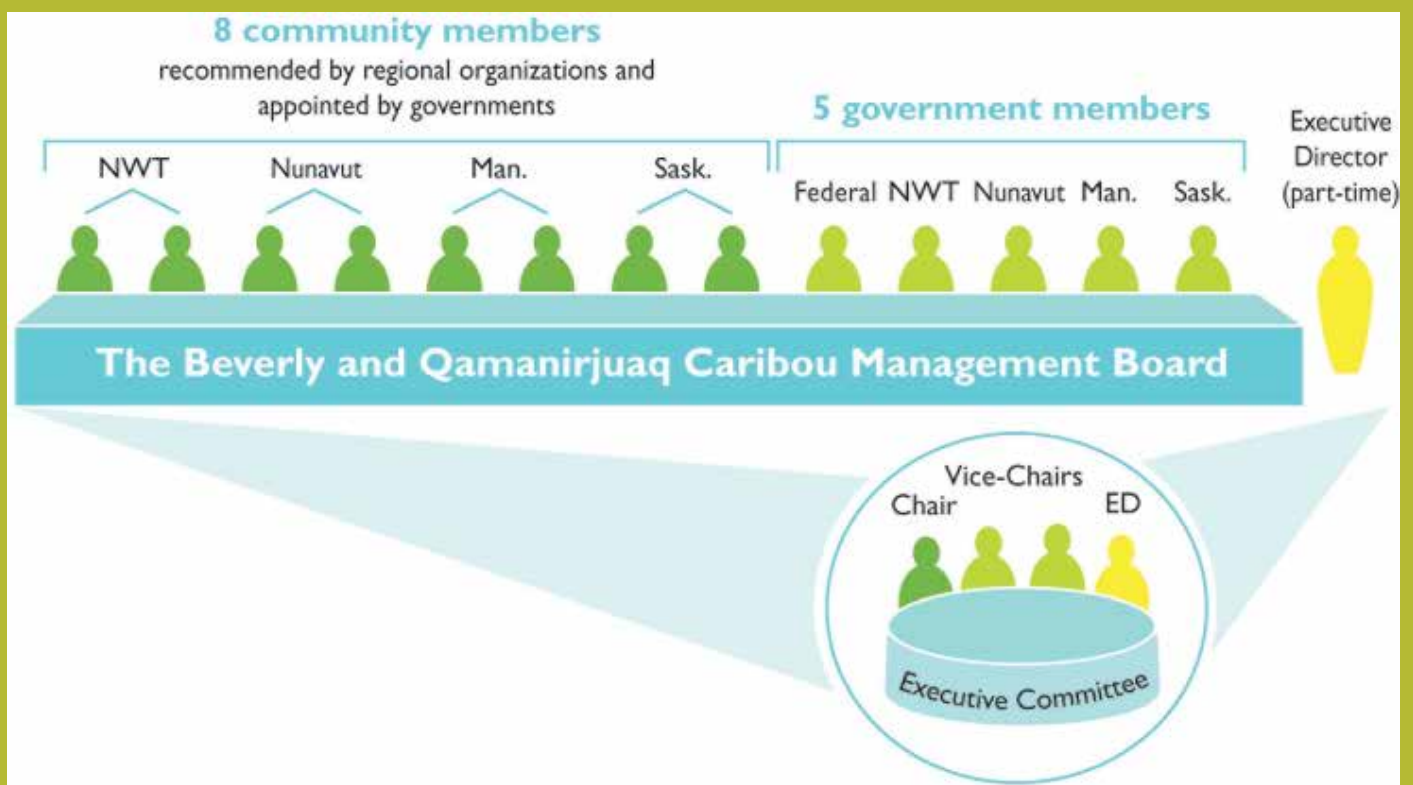
In the past, many of the Indigenous people of northern Manitoba, northern Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut depended on Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou for food, clothing and shelter. Their days circled around the caribou—following these migratory animals during hunting seasons. When the animals were scarce, starvation—and even death—sometimes ensued.

The dependence on caribou as a primary food source persists into modern times—as does the significance of the animal to the culture and lifestyle of the region’s Indigenous peoples. With the nutritional and cultural value of caribou and the high cost of transporting food and other goods into northern Canada, caribou meat continues to be an important country staple.

In the late 1970s, population estimates caused some groups to fear the caribou herds were becoming endangered. There were also concerns that rising industrial development and the large numbers of people associated with that development could hurt the caribou’s environment.

Fortunately, changing times also brought about changing attitudes and, for the first time, Canadian federal, provincial and territorial governments and scientists turned to caribou hunters to work together as a team to co-manage the herds. This state of affairs, in turn, gave rise to the BQCMB in 1982.

“The Board has advised governments, communities and many others since 1982 on ways to safeguard the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds of northern Canada.”



OFFICERS

Earl Evans, Chair
Daryll Hedman, Vice-Chair, Operations
Tim Trottier, Vice-Chair, Administration
Ross Thompson, Executive Director

MEMBERS

Government of Canada

Erik Alain (Iqaluit)
Alternate: Alain Grenier (Iqaluit)

Manitoba

Representing the Communities of Northern Manitoba
Albert Thorassie (Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake)
Napoleon Denechezhe (Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet)
Alternates: Adam Nalge
Geoff Bussidor (Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake)

Representing the Government of Manitoba:
Daryll Hedman (Thompson)
Alternate: Vicki Trim (Thompson)

Saskatchewan

Representing the Communities of Northern Saskatchewan
Dennis Larocque (Camsell Portage)
Ron Robillard (Athabasca Denesuline, Prince Albert)
Alternates: Louis Josie (Hatchet Lake Denesuline First Nation, Wollaston Lake)
Joe Martin (Fond du Lac Denesuline First Nation)

Representing the Government of Saskatchewan
Tim Trottier (La Ronge)
Alternate: Chuck Lees (Regina)

Northwest Territories

Representing the Communities of the Northwest Territories
Earl Evans (Northwest Territory Metis Nation, Fort Smith)
Alternate: Ken Hudson (Northwest Territory Metis Nation, Fort Smith)
Sam Boucher (Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation, Akitcho Government)
Alternate: Vacant

Representing the Government of the Northwest Territories
Allicia Kelly (Fort Smith)
Alternate: Bruno Croft (Yellowknife)

Nunavut

Representing the Communities of Nunavut
Alex Ishalook (Kivalliq Wildlife Board, Arviat)
Richard Aksawnee (Kivalliq Wildlife Board, Whale Cove)
Alternates: Vacant

Representing the Government of Nunavut
Mitch Campbell (Arviat)
Alternate: Vacant

THE ANNUAL CARIBOU CYCLE

Most caribou from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds have traditionally wintered in the sub-arctic forests of the Northwest Territories (NWT), Saskatchewan and Manitoba—with Beverly caribou using limited range in Alberta in some years. A portion of the Qamanirjuaq herd regularly winters on the tundra along the coast of Hudson Bay and into Manitoba. In recent years, however, few caribou have wintered in north-western Saskatchewan or south-central NWT, and reconnaissance surveys conducted since 2002 have found a major downward trend in the number of cows using the traditional Beverly calving ground. In addition, satellite collar movements have indicated that some collared Beverly cows that previously calved on the traditional calving ground (primarily in Nunavut and a small portion in the NWT) have shifted their calving location north to an area near the coast of Queen Maud Gulf. These alterations in the Beverly herd's pattern of seasonal range use may have resulted entirely from changes in movements and habitat selection, from a major decline in the size of the herd, or from a combination of these factors.

The general areas and specific habitats used by Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou from year to year are determined by a combination of many factors, including weather, snow melt, plant phenology, predator avoidance and traditional use of the range. However, the general cycle of seasonal movements traditionally followed by these herds can be described as follows: In spring, the cows and yearlings are the first to migrate north to the calving grounds, followed by non-pregnant cows and young bulls. Adult bulls follow—up to a month later. After calving in early to mid-June, the caribou begin to form larger groups. By mid-July, aggregations of many thousands—including adult males—may be found on calm days. This behavior is a response to mosquito harassment, and it also reduces predation by wolves, concentrating the caribou in a relatively small area.

Beginning at the end of July, a rapid migration back to the vicinity of the tree line occurs. In August, the caribou disperse in response to warble and nose bot flies. In some years, a migration back towards the calving grounds takes place. The timing of the fall migration from tundra to taiga varies from October to December. The rut occurs in late October, usually within the forest-tundra eco-zone. Mature bulls separate from the cow-calf-young bull groups soon after the rut. Traditionally by November, most of the herds are in the forest once again, although travel is usually rapid until snow accumulation deepens to 50 cm or more in February and March.

Traditional calving grounds are the cumulative general areas that have been used for caribou calving over the years. However, specific areas used for calving in a given year—annual calving areas—vary from year to year.





Photo credit: Pierre Bernier

\$20M

“The total annual net economic value of the caribou harvest from both herds is estimated at more than \$20 million.”



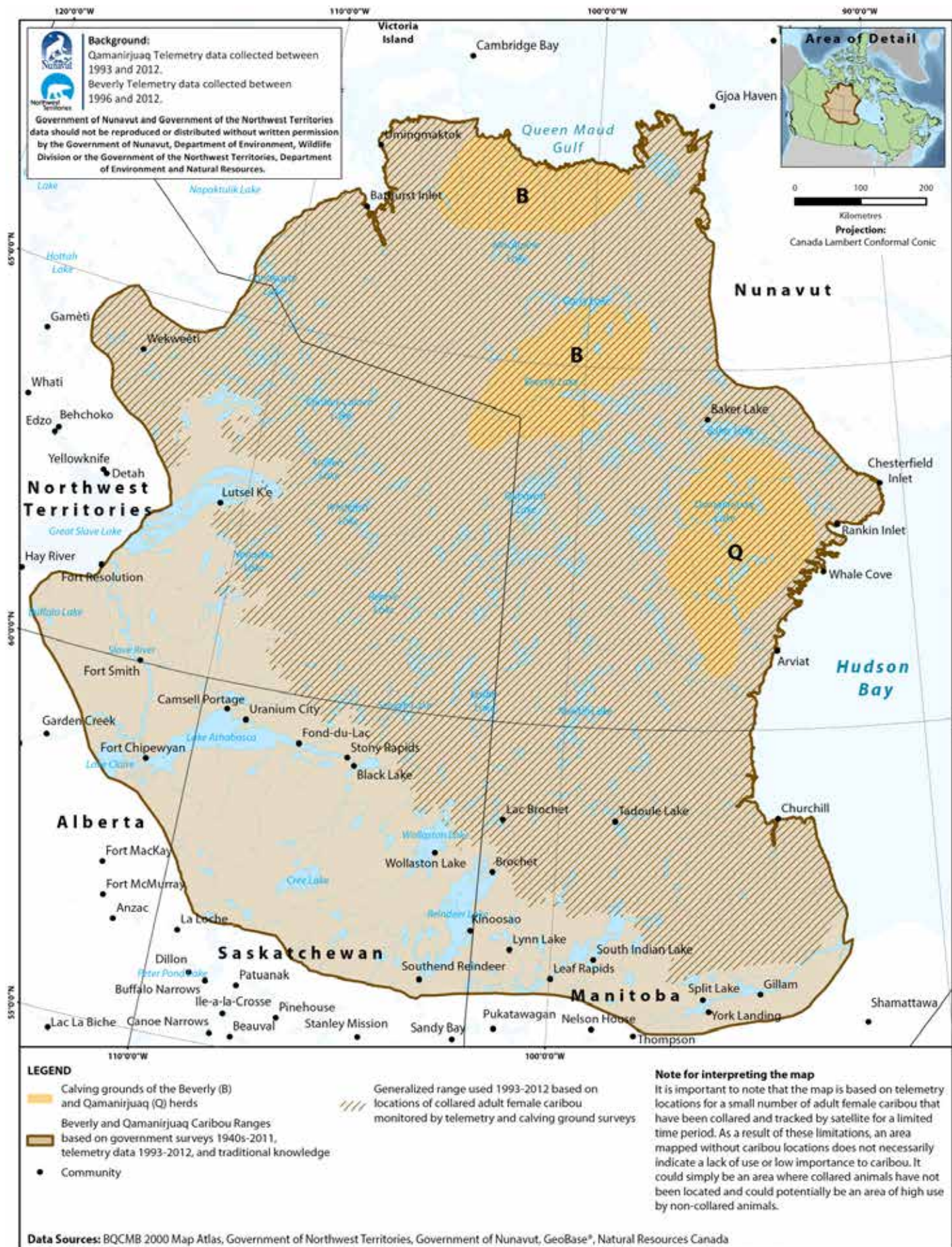
In addition to their intrinsic value, caribou also have cultural, spiritual and an economic significance—particularly to the people of northern Canada. Approximately 21,000 people live on or near the range of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and the majority of them are of Indigenous ancestry, including Inuit, Dene, Cree and Metis peoples. Using caribou fulfils social, cultural and economic needs and forms the foundation and legacy of several cultures.

Lean caribou meat is often more nutritious than imported foods. In Beverly and Qamanirjuaq range communities, meat from other sources can be difficult to procure, fresh produce is limited and import costs are very high. A 2008 socio-economic evaluation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds (revised in 2013)

calculated the total annual net economic value of the caribou harvest from both herds at more than \$20 million, based on harvest estimates for 2005-06. Additional economic and cultural benefits from caribou are derived from the use of skins for clothing and bedding, and bones and antlers for handicrafts.

Clearly, the use of caribou is essential to providing a sustainable, affordable meat supply. However, harvesting caribou is not important simply for food or income. The true value of caribou for Indigenous people is in the strong traditional, cultural and spiritual relationship between the people and animals. The caribou harvest as well as ceremonies and community feasts all play a huge part in protecting traditional cultures for both present and future generations.

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou ranges and calving grounds based on government surveys 1940s-2011, tracking locations of collared cows 1993-2012, and traditional knowledge.



THE YEAR **IN REVIEW**

Note: The summaries in this section are based on observations from harvesters, other residents of caribou range communities and government biologists.



Photo credit: Bruno Croft



Photo credit: Daryll Hedman

MANITOBA

Barren-ground caribou that come into northern Manitoba have historically been from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds. During recent years all caribou that have entered Manitoba during the fall have been from the Qamanirjuaq herd.

Each year during the months of late August and early September Qamanirjuaq caribou enter Manitoba in the northeast part of the province, migrating to the west and southwest. Further movement occurs during early winter and into January to the southern part of the winter range well into the treeline. Harvest of the barren-ground caribou occurs by Indigenous people of the north (normally Dene), and both resident and non-resident sport hunters.

The migration of caribou during the fall of 2015 was very late, with collar locations suggesting they remained within Nunavut for most all of the fall season. Harvest success was very low, with most hunters not seeing any caribou activity throughout the entire fall range. During the late fall/early winter season Qamanirjuaq caribou entered Manitoba, moving southwest into the Tadoule Lake region. During the months of January, February, and March there were high concentrations of caribou immediately around the Tadoule Lake area, and hunter harvest along the winter road and within the community of Tadoule Lake was well above normal. Most hunters were from the Athabasca Region of northern Saskatchewan, as well as hunters from most northern Manitoba communities. Harvest of caribou north of South Indian Lake also occurred at a low level. Caribou made it down as far as Chipewyan Lake, unlike past years in which they traveled as far as South Indian Lake.

Patrol coverage for both the fall and winter season was completed by fixed wing, rotary wing, truck and snow machine. The Lynn Lake district completed weekly truck patrols, augmented by snow machine once officers were within the range of the caribou. During the spring 2016 BQCMB meeting in Flin Flon, Manitoba, Andrew Szklaruk, a Natural Resource Officer from Lynn Lake, provided an account of the fall and winter recreational hunt in Manitoba. In the fall, two warnings and two offenses were issued, along with 10 verbal warnings. During the winter season, nine verbal warnings were issued along with three tagging violations and one loaded firearm in a vehicle.

Helicopter coverage was completed on three different occasions during the months of January and February. There was a very high concentration of harvest pressure noted within the Tadoule Lake region, with most hunting groups being checked for compliance by conservation officers. Most of the hunters checked were Indigenous hunters, with minimal hunting pressure by winter resident hunters.

The number of caribou harvested and unregulated hunting practices near the community of Tadoule Lake were a concern to the Sayisi Dene First Nation. Regional staff of Manitoba Sustainable Development (MSD), including BQCMB member Daryll Hedman (Thompson), met with the Chief and Council to gain an understanding of their concerns. Although the harvest of caribou could not be halted, MSD engaged in an outreach plan on good hunting practices, including public contact through the media.

Sustainable Development staff also attended a meeting between the Athabasca Dene, the Northlands Dene and Sayisi Dene of northern Manitoba in early April 2016 to assist in the development of sustainable hunting protocols between Denesuline hunters of both provinces.

For the 2016/17 barren ground caribou season Manitoba Sustainable Development will be enhancing both the fall and winter patrol coverage, and will be in contact with the traditional users of caribou on the Qamanirjuaq winter range.

Wolves and bears also increased as a problem and were not being harvested unless they were close to communities. BQCMB member Napoleon Denechezhe (Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet) noted wolves were common in his area and a bounty would be helpful. BQCMB Member Albert Thorassie (Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake) also cited evidence of six wolves spotted on the winter road, and hearing reports of plenty of wolf tracks near Tadoule Lake.

NUNAVUT

Qamanirjuaq herd

The most recent population survey of the Qamanirjuaq herd was completed in June 2014, and presented to the Board by BQCMB member Mitch Campbell (Government of Nunavut) in 2015. Using the double-observer method, areas with medium and low-densities of caribou were visually surveyed, while high-density areas were surveyed using a specialized aircraft to collect aerial photographs of animals on the calving ground.



“This decline could have serious implications for sustainable harvest.”

The results indicated that the size of the herd in 2014 was estimated to be about 264,700, based on the total number of adult female caribou in the herd. This is a significant decline from the June 2008 population size of about 344,100—about 23% overall, or 4% per year on average.

Within this survey there was a significant drop in the number of breeding cows observed, as well. In 2008, 156,000 breeding cows were observed, while in 2014, only 100,000 were observed. There is a need, therefore, to carefully monitor calf recruitment and survival. Anything below 30 calves/100 cows predicts a decline, and it has been below that level since 2000.

These results alarmed the BQCMB as this decline could have serious implications for sustainable harvest. The basic needs level of traditional harvesters of caribou was estimated by GN staff using harvest approximations from the recent past. Using the 2014 population estimate, the level of sustainable harvest for the Qamanirjuaq herd is now about the same as the estimated basic needs level for caribou of traditional harvesters of caribou in all communities across the Qamanirjuaq range. This could mean that any further decline in herd size would reduce the sustainable harvest below the estimated basic needs level, which would be a major problem for the herd and for harvesters of Qamanirjuaq caribou.

It is important to note that this estimate of the “basic needs level” does not include recent additional harvest from communities which traditionally hunted other herds (such as Beverly and Bathurst) when they were available, as well as harvest resulting from easier access to caribou that is now provided to hunters from communities south of the caribou range by roads in northern Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Beverly herd

The last population survey of the Beverly herd was completed in 2011 and appeared to indicate the herd was stable and not decreasing. The results of a June 2016 reconnaissance survey will show whether the herd remains stable or is declining. The earliest the next Beverly population survey could be scheduled would be in 2018.

During the November 2015 BQCMB meeting in Winnipeg, BQCMB member Alex Ishalook (Arviat) noted plenty of caribou were seen crossing Maguse Lake beginning in September; with hundreds, then thousands migrating west through Arviat, along with some wolves. In October numbers started to decline and locals started catching wolves. Two elder instructors are training young male hunters to properly hunt caribou. Healthy food programs are available and girls and young mothers are learning proper ways to clean the skins and prepare the meat. The Arviat HTO collected 20 caribou samples in fall 2015 – 10 male and 10 female – as part of a study monitoring mercury and other contaminant levels in the herd, and the sampled caribou were found to be healthy, indicating they remain a safe food source.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Caribou monitoring- spring composition surveys (Beverly herd)

Composition surveys of the Beverly herd are normally conducted in late winter (March or April); however there was no composition survey in 2015 or 2016. In March 2016 the remote location of caribou (wintering in the Queen Maud Gulf area) made a survey cost-prohibitive. The most recent composition survey of the Beverly herd was in March 2014 with a calf: cow ratio of 38 ± 1.7 (SE).

Caribou monitoring- telemetry collars (Beverly herd)

Collars were deployed just prior to the end of the fiscal year, from March 23-25, 2015. Collars were mounted on 10 cows and 15 bulls, which was the first time bulls were collared in this area. Deployments occurred north and east of the East Arm of Great Slave Lake.

Collaring bulls will provide better information on range use by the Beverly herd, as bulls and cows use different habitats during some portions of the year, and bulls often travel farther south than cows. Bulls received the same collar type used for cows in previous years as ENR had collars remaining from

2014 (Telonics model TGW-4680-3) which weighed ~1100 grams. However, a lighter model of collar (Telonics model TGW-4583-3) was deployed on cows, weighing ~800 grams. Both actions—collaring bulls and finding ways to minimize the impact of collars—address issues the BQCMB has raised.

As of April 1, 2015 there were 47 active collars (33 cows, 14 bulls) on this range (including collars remaining from earlier deployments) managed by ENR. By the end of the fiscal year (March 31, 2016) 29 of these collars (24 cows, 5 bulls) remained active.

Winter distribution of caribou 2015-16

Collar data and local observations showed that most Beverly caribou remained in Nunavut on the tundra throughout the 2015-16 winter season. Qamanirjuaq caribou remained in the east, primarily in Manitoba and Nunavut. NWT communities on the Beverly range including Fort Smith, Fort Resolution and Lutsel K'e were not able to locate or access caribou east of Great Slave Lake. No caribou were observed on ENR aerial patrols conducted east of Artillery Lake and south to Sandy Lake, where Beverly caribou have wintered in recent years. An aerial patrol following a loop between Fort Smith and Kasba Lake that is surveyed annually (covering portions of the winter range of both Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou), observed only 2 caribou on Alcanterra Lake, and no caribou tracks in other areas. However Louis Mercredi noted at the May 2016 Board meeting that a small group of a few hundred caribou had wintered in the Rennie Lake area, and had likely come down from the north (i.e. more likely Beverly rather than Qamanirjuaq caribou). At the May 2016 Board meeting, community members from all 4 jurisdictions discussed the overflow (or slush ice) conditions that were prevalent across the range, and suggested that the resulting poor conditions for caribou may have influenced movement patterns.

Wildfire on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds' range within NWT

In summer 2015, 31 fires occurred within the NWT portion of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds' combined range below tree line (the area of interest or AOI). These fires burned 159,751 ha in total (this includes unburned areas within a fire's perimeter) which is 0.9% of the AOI.

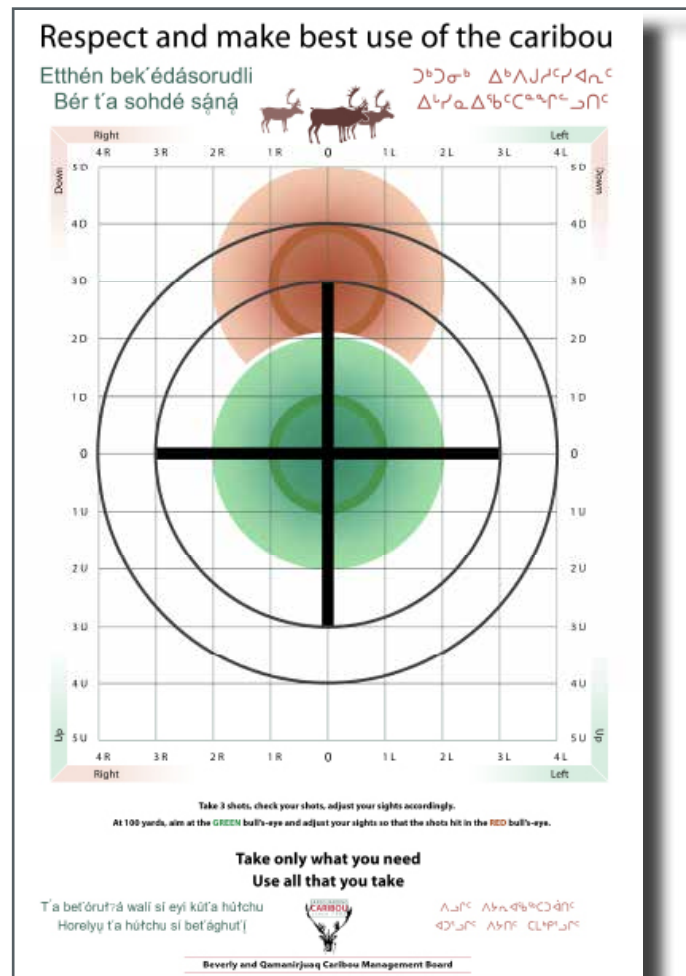
Promoting good hunting practices

ENR works with Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (LKDFN) and supports their harvest monitoring program. LKDFN hires 2-4 monitors who are supposed to report caribou harvest in the surrounding area, both by community hunters and also hunters coming from outside the community. ENR and LKDFN also have a joint check station in Reliance but it did not operate in winter 2015-16 due to the lack of caribou in the area.

ENR held its 5th annual "Sight in Your Rifle" events in Fort Smith and Hay River in August and September 2015. According to BQCMB Member Alicia Kelly (GNWT, Fort Smith), the objective of this event is to decrease the wounding and wastage of wildlife by increasing awareness of the importance of accurate firearms and becoming an accurate shooter; and providing an opportunity and assistance to hunters with sighting in their rifles. It also provides an opportunity for local hunters and ENR staff to share information with each other. The BQCMB developed targets to assist with sighting in firearms a few years ago and these are used at the events.

Ron Fatt (Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation) said his community has monitors to ensure people don't waste meat. He noted the emergency status of the Bathurst herd may result in shifting of hunting to other herds. It now costs up to \$500 for one hunt for gas, food, etc. As younger generations are the biggest hunters, youth are being educated about good hunting practices in the schools.

BQCMB Chair Earl Evans (NWT Metis Nation, Fort Smith) noted there was not one caribou harvested out of Fort Smith during the winter of 2015/16.





SASKATCHEWAN

Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment was not involved in aerial survey, telemetry or other monitoring of caribou to obtain data on abundance, composition, recruitment, calving ground delineation and distribution during 2015. However, local reports confirmed that no caribou were observed within Saskatchewan all winter.

The Ministry's contribution to management came mainly from providing partial support for the functioning of the BQCMB, and for two community and one government member to attend two meetings of the board. The first of those meetings was held in spring 2015 at Flin Flon, Manitoba (a border community to Saskatchewan) to facilitate attendance of Saskatchewan members.

The Athabasca Denesuline Né Né Land Corporation (ADNLC) once again organized a round of meetings in communities of the three First Nations (Fond Du Lac, Black Lake, Hatchet Lake) during the month of January 2016 which were attended by BQCMB members Ron Robillard (ADNLC, Prince Albert) and Tim Trottier (Gov. SK, La Ronge), as well as ADNLC biologist Tina Giroux.

Ron Robillard and Tina Giroux organized a meeting between Manitoba and Saskatchewan Dene from the caribou range in spring 2016 to discuss harvesting issues that took place in the previous winter months. The Ministry was represented by Tim Trottier who gave an update on Qamanirjuaq Herd status. The outcome of that meeting was a common understanding for everyone to work together and support each other as caribou harvesters, to adopt a set of principles guiding the harvest of caribou, and to strive to be proactive on caribou issues before they become a problem requiring government intervention. There were very few forest fires on the Saskatchewan part of the winter range in 2015 and weather conditions were cool throughout the summer.

No hunting licenses for barren-ground caribou were purchased and no caribou were harvested by licensed hunters in Saskatchewan. The Ministry divides the province into Wildlife Management Zones (WMZ) for purposes of managing for various game species including barren-ground caribou. WMZ 76 is the most northerly, the largest and the only barren-ground caribou zone. In order for licensed hunters to hunt barren-ground caribou they must be permanent residents of a community within WMZ 76 for at least six months. That status allows a hunter requiring a license to purchase up to two tags and harvest up to two caribou during an established hunting season from October 15 in one year to April 15 in the following year. There is no limit on the number of hunters that can buy a license, i.e. no quota on the harvest. There is also no stipulation as to allowed sex or age of harvested animal. It can be bull, cow or calf. The Ministry has had some discussion about closing the hunting season based on its priority allocation principles which state that there must be sufficient numbers of caribou in a population (in this case in the province during the hunting season) to allow for hunting of caribou, and sufficient numbers to allow Indigenous people to meet their needs (Treaty and Metis rights) before allocating some harvest to resident licensed hunters.

There is no non-resident licensed hunting season in Saskatchewan. Therefore outfitting for barren-ground caribou is not allowed. This partly has to do with the fact that in recent decades bulls do not reach Saskatchewan until after freeze-up when many will have lost their antlers greatly limiting the opportunity for a trophy hunt. It also partly has to do with concerns of the Indigenous caribou-using people that the inclusion of a non-resident hunting opportunity would conflict with their caribou harvesting needs.

BQCMB member Dennis Larocque (Camsell Portage) noted caribou were located too far away from his community, over an hour by plane, and too far to snowmobile so the only option was taking a charter to edge of tree line to hunt. Ron Robillard reported plenty of caribou in Selwyn and Wholdia Lake areas, noting they came south into the Bompas Lake area before pushing back north.

Former BQCMB member George Tsannie (Hatchet Lake First Nation, Wollaston Lake) noted hardly any caribou in his area, but still plenty of evidence of wolf and wolverine, even on Wollaston Lake itself and at mine sites where wolves are attracted to garbage.

TOP ISSUES FOR 2015/16

A key role of the BQCMB is to respond to caribou-related concerns and provide recommendations for the conservation and management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds and their habitat. This section describes the most critical issues over the course of the year and the BQCMB's comments and submissions regarding those issues.

Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

BQCMB Recommendations to the Nunavut Planning Commission

Development of a Nunavut-wide land use plan has been underway for many years, and the BQCMB has been providing input throughout the process. The BQCMB is not against mining or other forms of economic development, but the Board believes that it is essential that crucial caribou habitats have long-term, effective protection. The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) made significant efforts to offer protection for caribou habitat in the 2014 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP), but technical issues remained and concerns also arose related to uncertainty around the process for addressing outstanding issues.

Over 2015-2016, the Board provided input as summarized below.

June, 2015 – The BQCMB submitted comments to NPC on key outstanding issues with the 2014 DNLUP and asked that they be discussed during a technical meeting to be held June 23-25th, so that potential solutions for addressing the issues could be identified and necessary revisions to the DNLUP could be made. The BQCMB's submission described the Board's position on protection of calving and post-calving areas, calling for:

- long-term protection of caribou calving grounds and post-calving areas through the prohibition of industrial land use activities such as mineral exploration and development;
- prohibition of development activities not only from calving areas and key access corridors (which was the GN recommendation) but also from post-calving areas; and

- protection of “traditional calving areas” delineated using all available telemetry and survey data, which is required to provide caribou herds with access to necessary habitats as herd sizes change through their long-term population cycles.

The Board also stated that because no plans had been developed for application of federal or territorial protected area legislation to these areas in Nunavut, protection through land use plan designation was the best alternative.

The BQCMB also raised 11 technical issues within the 2014 DNLUP regarding caribou habitat, focusing on:

- protection of calving and post-calving areas, including areas identified with high mineral potential;
- management of protected areas with terms or direction for regulators for other activities that may have impacts on caribou calving and post-calving areas, in addition to mineral exploration and development;
- clarity required regarding the relationship between the federal government's Caribou Protection Measures and the NLUP and conformity review process;
- needs for protection and management of land use activities on other key caribou habitats, and clarification of protection for key caribou habitat in existing conservation areas (Thelon Wildlife Sanctuary, Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Thelon and Kazan Heritage Rivers).

August, 2015 – The BQCMB wrote a letter to the NPC following up on the June 23-25 and July 14-16 2015 technical meetings on the 2014 DNLUP, in which the BQCMB participated by teleconference.

TOP ISSUES FOR 2015/16

The letter included recommendations about timing of the Public Hearing on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan and comments on proposed caribou workshop(s) and other key issues relevant to caribou. Issues of particular concern to the Board, which arose from review of the 2014 DNLUP, proposals made by other parties in their comments to the NPC, and discussions during NPC's June and July 2015 technical meetings included:

- exempting protected areas status for calving areas with identified high mineral potential and grandfathering of all existing mineral tenures (including prospecting permits and mineral claims on calving grounds) to allow for exploration and development activities up to and including establishment of mines in areas where current rights are limited to specific, short-term land uses that do not include mining;
- uncertainty about the future status of the Queen Maud Gulf Migratory Bird Sanctuary and plans for protection of caribou calving grounds contained within the current boundaries of the Sanctuary;
- apparent lack of protection for key caribou water crossings on the Thelon and Kazan Heritage Rivers; and
- lack of clarity regarding plans for designation of areas included in potential road corridors, including the Manitoba-Kivalliq road corridor through spring migration range and calving areas used by the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd.

March, 2016 – The BQCMB submitted a letter to the NPC summarizing its main recommendations made on the 2014 DNLUP in previous submissions to NPC in support of the Board's participation in the March 7-9th Caribou Workshop in Iqaluit. This submission formed the basis for part of the Board's verbal presentations at the Caribou Workshop.

The BQCMB urged NPC to apply a precautionary approach and risk management in land use planning for Nunavut, in the overall context of cumulative effects on caribou, which are particularly important to consider in light of the declining status and vulnerability of most of the caribou herds that occupy range in Nunavut at least part of each year. The BQCMB suggested that the burden of proof regarding effects of land use activities on caribou, caribou habitat and caribou harvesters should be placed on those whose proposed actions would alter habitat and disturb caribou.

Response from the Nunavut Planning Commission to these recommendations was expected in the revised Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan to be released in June 2016.

BQCMB Recommendations to the Government of Canada

December, 2015 – The BQCMB wrote a letter to Hon. Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) and Hon. Hunter Tootoo, Member of Parliament for Nunavut reiterating the Board's concern about the lack of protection for important barren-ground caribou habitats and the apparent disregard of federal Caribou Protection Measures in the 2014 DNLUP.

The letter called for an immediate moratorium on the issuance of any new mineral tenures, exploration permits and licenses, and development approvals on calving grounds and post-calving areas in Nunavut until the following issues are addressed:

- ongoing uncertainty about the timeline for the Nunavut land use planning process;
- lack of agreement among partners in the Nunavut land use planning process on the need and means for protecting caribou calving and post-calving areas, and the apparent lack of a plan by NPC for making progress to address this issue;
- absence of a plan for protecting caribou calving and post-calving areas in Nunavut through a new territory-wide Nunavut Land Use Plan;
- the unknown fate of Caribou Protection Measures in a new Nunavut Land Use Plan;
- dwindling options for protecting caribou calving and post-calving areas as land use planning delays continue and industrial land use activities are approved on those key habitats; and
- confusion about the federal government's proposal to guarantee rights to conduct mining in areas where any level of mineral tenure has been granted.

The Board's recommendation for a moratorium supported and expanded on a similar request submitted in mid-November by the Kivalliq Wildlife Board (KWB), specifically that "the Government of Canada immediately halt issuing mineral claims, licenses, and permits for mining and exploration activity in Nunavut's caribou calving grounds". World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Canada issued a letter of support for the Kivalliq Wildlife Board's call for an immediate moratorium in mid-December.

A preliminary response from the Minister of INAC to the BQCMB's recommendations was provided in late March 2016 which stated: "Before moving forward, the Government of Canada will engage with the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to determine whether to pursue a moratorium on issuing authorizations in caribou calving grounds." Similar letters were sent to the KWB and WWF-Canada.

“The BQCMB suggested that the burden of proof regarding effects of land use activities on caribou, caribou habitat and caribou harvesters should be placed on those whose proposed actions would alter habitat and disturb caribou.”

Proposed AREVA Kiggavik Uranium Mine

In May 2015 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) submitted their recommendation on the proposed AREVA Kiggavik Uranium Mine Project to the Hon. Bernard Valcourt, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada (AANDC). The NIRB recommended to “not approve the project at this time”. The NIRB also stated in the Final Hearing Report to the federal Minister that:

The Board does not intend that this Project not proceed at any time. The Board intends that the Kiggavik Project may be resubmitted for consideration at such future time when increased certainty regarding the project start date can be provided. This may enable the Board to make more definite and confident assessments of potential ecosystemic and socio-economic effects having regard to the enduring significance of caribou, fish and marine wildlife for Nunavummiut, especially the residents and communities of the Nunavut Settlement Area, and the potential for project-specific and cumulative effects which could adversely affect these.

The NIRB’s recommendation was based on their analysis of AREVA’s Final Environmental Impact Statement and their assessment of the potential ecosystemic and socio-economic effects of the project proposal. The recommendation was also made in response to numerous submissions from many parties to the review, including the BQCMB, which was an active participant in all stages of the NIRB’s screening and review processes since 2009, thanks in part to receipt of federal Participant Funding. The 5-year review process concluded with a 2-week public

Final Hearing in March 2015, at which the BQCMB’s Chair Earl Evans made two formal presentations and provided many informal verbal comments on behalf of the Board.

Many of the BQCMB’s primary concerns were related to the project’s proposed all-season road and the cumulative effects on caribou and habitat that would result from the Kiggavik project and others that will follow once the area is opened up for further exploration and development. These concerns were shared by many groups representing caribou harvesters, including regional Hunters’ and Trappers’ Organizations and the Kivalliq Wildlife Board.

In July AREVA wrote to the federal Minister of AANDC on behalf of their project partners to convey their disappointment in the NIRB’s recommendation and to request that the NIRB’s Hearing Report be rejected by the Minister.

In August the BQCMB submitted a letter to the Minister of AANDC, stating it supported the NIRB’s recommendations as well as the positions outlined in subsequent submissions from the Baker Lake Hunters’ and Trappers’ Organization, the Kivalliq Wildlife Board and MiningWatch Canada.

The BQCMB and other Parties to the Review were hopeful that the Minister of Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development would accept the NIRB’s Hearing Report and agree with their conclusion that the Kiggavik Project should not proceed at this time. A Ministerial decision had not been communicated by the end of March 2016, but was expected to occur soon.



Photo courtesy AREVA Canada

Status of the Qamanirjuaq Caribou Herd

Concern for the status of the Qamanirjuaq Caribou Herd grew considerably over the past year, primarily due to the results of the most recent population survey of the herd, which was completed in June 2014. (See “Caribou Monitoring and Management – Nunavut” for further details about this survey.)

The size of the herd was estimated to be about 264,700, based on the total number of adult female caribou in the herd. This represents a significant decline from the June 2008 population size of about 344,100 – about 23% overall, or 4% per year on average.

The BQCMB and the Government of Nunavut (GN) plan to work on this issue in a number of ways, including:

- Asking airlines to provide information on the number of caribou being shipped;
- Working with Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) to express concerns to ministers;
- Asking organizations with comprehensive harvest monitoring programs for information that can be used to develop an approach for obtaining caribou harvest estimates for communities;

- Refining the comparison of “sustainable harvest” with “basic needs level”, and
- Trying to measure the extent of new harvest by communities who did not traditionally hunt the Qamanirjuaq herd.

Qamanirjuaq Vulnerability Assessment

During the fall 2015 BQCMB meeting, biologist Leslie Wakelyn submitted a draft report to the Board describing the preliminary results of the vulnerability assessment for the Qamanirjuaq herd, which was conducted by board members at the May 2015 meeting. The preliminary rating value was 3.1, or vulnerability level of medium.

Many Board members felt that other factors suggest that number should be higher. The Board agreed to add two new indicators intended to better assess herd vulnerability. Weighting of the indicators was also discussed to ensure a more realistic, accurate system. This would likely result in an increase to vulnerability rating from medium to medium-high or high.

The Board directed Wakelyn to apply the adjustments discussed and report on the revised results. The Board agreed rationale must be included if vulnerability rating is bumped up to reflect factors not included in the assessment.

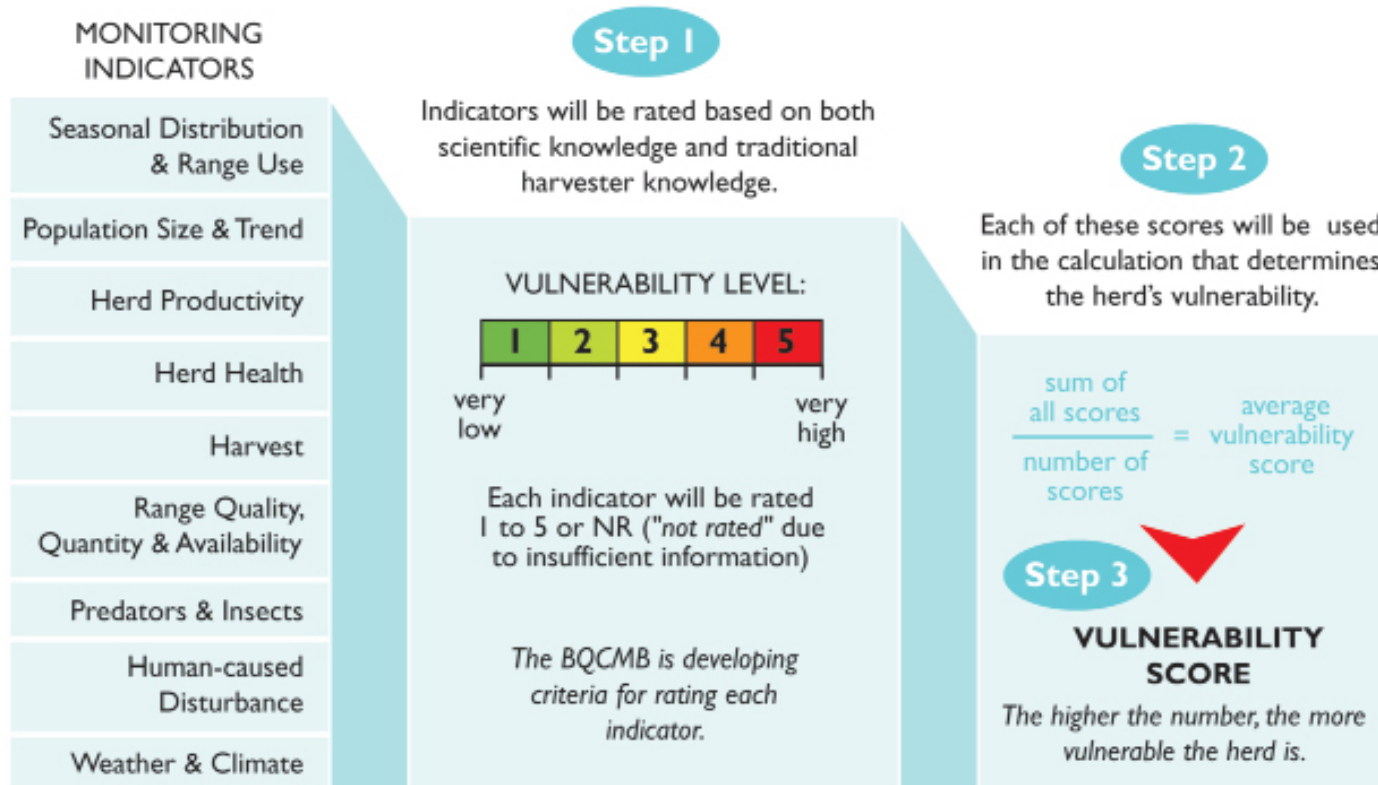




Photo credit: Bruno Croft

Harvest Reporting

Harvest Data

The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement stipulates that the BQCMB will provide “a summary of harvests by jurisdiction and community”. This information has been difficult to obtain due to a lack of systematic data collection programs across the range and challenges associated with how the information might be used. To date there are no reliable data on harvest across the ranges of the two herds.

Internet Sales of Caribou Meat

The issue of commercial caribou meat sales over the Internet continued to grow in severity in 2015. First identified as an issue in 2010, the amount of caribou meat being sold over the Internet may be a major threat to the future abundance of the Qamanirjuaq herd. Some air carriers are offering free or subsidized shipping of caribou and other meat within Nunavut, which is legal, but is putting more pressure on the herd.

Subsidized Shipping

Air carriers are not required to state how much meat they are shipping, which complicates tracking of this new type of shared harvest. The high price at which caribou are being sold via the Internet, reported to range from \$300 to \$1,000 per animal, is driving the harvest. Without solid information on the extent of the problem, however, it is difficult to measure its impact.

In early 2016 BQCMB representatives met with the President and Vice-president of Exchange Income Corporation, owners of several northern airline services, and voiced concerns over free shipments of caribou meat from the Kivalliq Region to other regions of Nunavut. Cooperation was immediate, and presently all Calm Air shipments of caribou meat are recorded and sent to the BQCMB (a partial indicator as not all carriers are providing information yet.)

Actions to address issues

The BQCMB plans to work on these issues in other ways, including.

- working with Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) to express concerns to Ministers
- asking organizations with comprehensive harvest monitoring programs (such as the Athabasca Denesuliné Né Né Land Corporation) for information that could be used to develop an approach for obtaining caribou harvest estimates for communities in the Kivalliq and other regions
- refining the comparison of “sustainable harvest” with “basic needs level”, and
- trying to measure the extent of new harvest by communities who did not traditionally hunt the Qamanirjuaq herd.

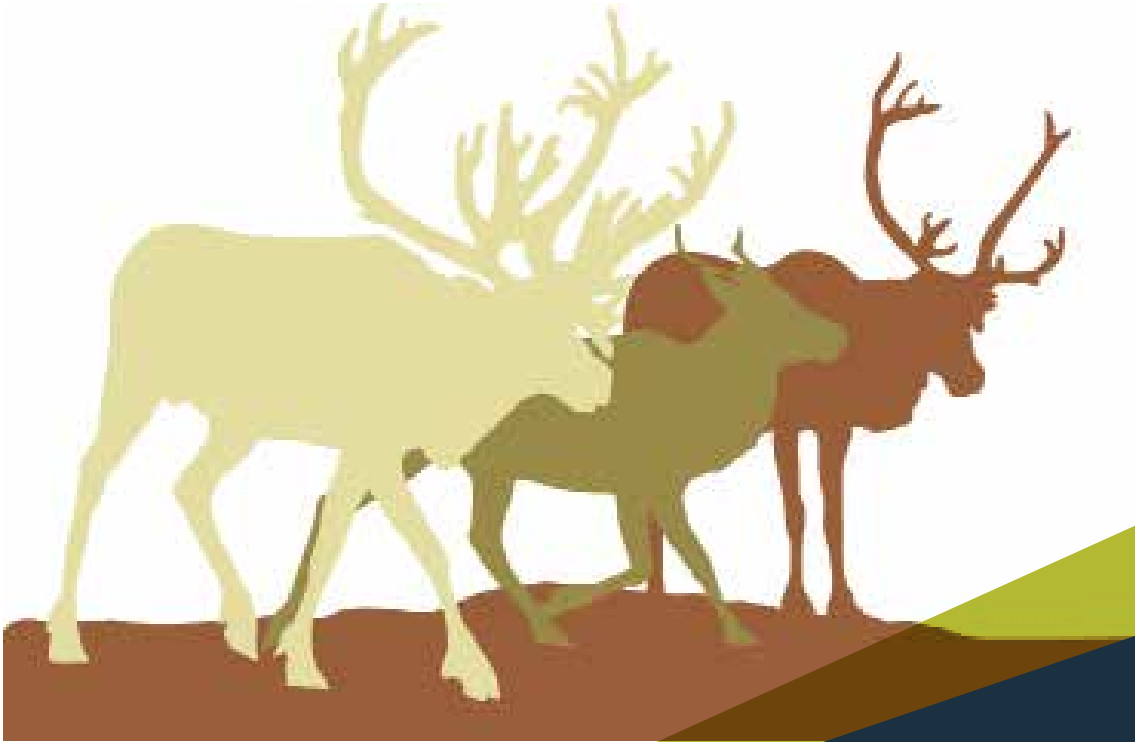
“The issue of commercial caribou meat sales over the Internet continued to grow in severity in 2015.”

“To date there are no reliable data on harvest across the ranges of the two herds.”

BQCMB Management Plan

The 2013-2022 BQCMB Management Plan identified 9 goals, 34 objectives (3-5 per goal) and 87 possible actions (1-7 per objective). At the May 2015 meeting, the Board selected 18 priority objectives (2 per goal) and 18 priority actions (1 per priority objective). The top three priority actions and their associated goals and objectives are shown below. These were chosen as activities that the Board would start to take action on as soon as possible.

BQCMB PRIORITY OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS – SELECTED MAY 2015			
GOAL		Top Priority Objectives	First Priority Actions
2	To strengthen support for caribou conservation	1 - Increase awareness of caribou issues and the BQCMB by residents of caribou range communities, other northerners, and other Canadians	Develop and implement a long-term communications plan that includes traditional media and social media which targets a varied audience including northerners, southern Canadians and circumpolar peoples; include educational institutions, non-government organizations and commercial land users operating on the caribou ranges
4	To monitor caribou population status over time	2 - Encourage governments to secure long-term funding to adequately monitor both herds	Prompt funding commitments based on long-term monitoring plan
5	To monitor the harvest of caribou	2 - Encourage governments to undertake harvest monitoring regularly and consistently, whether caribou numbers are high or low	Collect harvest data by community or First Nation and distinguish herd and/or harvest areas where possible



COMMUNICATIONS

“The need for a long-term communications plan was identified by the Board in May, 2015 as one of the three highest priority actions to be taken as soon as possible.

Board members were asked to identify three main messages and associated audiences.

This information will be incorporated into the communications planning process.

Messages:

- Protect calving grounds and other important habitats (post-calving areas, water crossings)
- Sustainable hunting – take only what you need, shoot bulls instead of cows when possible, promote conservation education, provide harvest information, responsible harvest vs. internet sales
- Protect herds – predator management, suppress wildfires, prevent and mitigate disturbance to herds

In early 2015, the BQCMB applied for funding under Indigenous Affairs and Northern Development Canada's Professional and Institutional Development Program. The BQCMB received \$25,000 which allowed the Board to enhance its effectiveness in community involvement, external relations, planning, information technology, and training/orientation of Board members, through three projects – a new BQCMB website, a branding guide, and a Board Orientation Manual.

New BQCMB Website

The BQCMB launched a new website on April 7, 2015, thanks to extra funding provided by the Government of Canada. A complete upgrade was required to accurately communicate the background, mandate and priorities of the organization while offering important information to traditional Indigenous hunters, scientists and researchers, educators and youth, and community residents. :

Background

The BQCMB needed to be better-known amongst the younger generations in the communities it represents and the general public. The need for new technology and outreach was three-fold:

1. To allow users to easily access reports, research materials, educational materials and other important documents and information.
2. To allow the BQCMB to maintain, update, measure and evaluate activity on the website.
3. To improve background information on the BQCMB including challenges and accomplishments over the Board's 30-year history.

Results

The website's new, fresh approach has attracted both new and existing users to the site on a regular basis to learn about the mandate of the Board: to ensure the long-term conservation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds for Indigenous communities and all Canadians.

The new site also works in conjunction with the BQCMB's Facebook page to ensure users of social media are directed to the website and encouraged to explore and learn. This is particularly important in order to attract youth whose first interaction is often through social media

Completion of these projects also allowed the BQCMB to implement a key goal of the 2013-2022 Management Plan, respecting communication and information.

www.arctic-caribou.com

statistics

April 1, 2015 – March 31, 2016

**Total # of unique visitors
6,501**

**most visited page:
Management Plan Maps**



Board Orientation Manual

The BQCMB identified the need for an orientation guide as an important resource for BQCMB Members, new and old, to provide information about:

- BQCMB History
- The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou
- BQCMB Composition
- How the BQCMB Operates
- Duties and Responsibilities
- Projects and Accomplishments
- Resources, and
- Future Challenges and Opportunities



This information has helped BQCMB members improve the BQCMB's efficiency and effectiveness. The BQCMB plans to share it with other organizations in the future.

Branding Standards Manual

All organizations need a consistent brand in order to be recognizable and credible. The BQCMB Branding Standards Manual clearly identifies guidelines for usage of the BQCMB logo, a primary colour palette, a specific font, and a series of image files.



Caribou News in Brief

Caribou News in Brief is a periodic publication of the BQCMB. The newsletter keeps people in touch with the BQCMB and with issues affecting caribou.

In 2015/16, the BQCMB issued two editions of Caribou News in Brief – Spring, 2015 and Winter, 2016.

- Spring, 2015 – Lead story: Kiggavik's Long and Winding Road
- Winter, 2016 – Lead story: Sounding the Alarm on Qamanirjuaq Caribou

Wildlife Society Conference 2015

BQCMB members Daryll Hedman and Vicki Trim, along with biologist Leslie Wakelyn, coordinated BQCMB proposals for presentations at the annual conference held in Winnipeg in October 2015. Hedman went on to present on behalf of the BQCMB during a symposium on Indigenous Peoples Involvement.

TEEB Arctic Scoping Study

Biologist Leslie Wakelyn and BQCMB alternate board member Geoff Bussidor (Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake) contributed to "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) Scoping Study for the Arctic" released in September 2015.

The BQCMB's input focused on the impacts of mineral exploration and development, cumulative effects and the value of caribou.



BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings in fiscal year

The Board met twice during the fiscal year: in May 2015 in Flin Flon, MB and in November 2015 in Winnipeg.

Meetings and locations

#1 August, 1982	Saskatoon, SK	#41 June, 1996	Lutsel K'e, NT
#2 January, 1983	Edmonton, AB	#42 November, 1996	Winnipeg, MB
#3 March, 1983	Lutsel K'e, NT	#43 June, 1997	Wollaston Lake, SK
#4 June, 1983	Yellowknife, NT	#44 November, 1997	Thompson, MB
#5 September, 1983	Black Lake, SK	#45 May, 1998	Tadoule Lake, MB
#6 January, 1984	Winnipeg, MB	#46 November, 1998	Fort Smith, NT
#7 April, 1984	Rankin Inlet, NU	#47 May, 1999	Arviat, NU
#8 August, 1984	Fort Smith, NT	#48 November, 1999	Winnipeg, MB
#9 November, 1984	Saskatoon, SK	#49 May, 2000	Churchill, MB
#10 April, 1985	Baker Lake, NU	#50 November, 2000	Winnipeg, MB
#11 August, 1985	Whitehorse, YK	#51 June, 2001	Black Lake, SK
#12 November, 1985	Edmonton, AB	#52 November, 2001	Yellowknife, NT
#13 April, 1986	Thompson, MB	#53 May, 2002	Baker Lake, NU
#14 August, 1986	Arviat, NU	#54 November, 2002	Winnipeg, MB
#15 April, 1987	Saskatoon, SK	#55 May, 2003	Fond du Lac, SK
#16 August, 1987	Winnipeg, MB	#56 November, 2003	Winnipeg, MB
#17 November, 1987	Fort Smith, NT	#57 May, 2004	Fort Smith, NT
#18 April, 1988	Winnipeg, MB	#58 November, 2004	Winnipeg, MB
#19 August, 1988	Stony Rapids, SK	#59 May, 2005	Rankin Inlet, NU
#20 November, 1988	Winnipeg, MB	#60 November, 2005	Winnipeg, MB
#21 April, 1989	Baker Lake, NU	#61 May, 2006	Prince Albert, SK
#22 August, 1989	Lac Brochet, MB	#62 November, 2006	Winnipeg, MB
#23 December, 1989	Winnipeg, MB	#63 June, 2007	Thompson, MB
#24 April, 1990	Fond du Lac, SK	#64 November, 2007	Winnipeg, MB
#25 August, 1990	Lutsel K'e, NT	#65 May, 2008	Fort Smith, NT
#26 December, 1990	Winnipeg, MB	#66 November, 2008	Winnipeg, MB
#27 March, 1991	Yellowknife, NT	#67 May, 2009	Prince Albert, SK
#28 August, 1991	Prince Albert, SK	#68 November, 2009	Winnipeg, MB
#29 December, 1991	Fort Smith, NT	#69 May, 2010	Wollaston Lake, SK
#30 April, 1992	Arviat, NU	#70 October, 2010	Winnipeg, MB
#31 December, 1992	Uranium City, SK	#71 May, 2011	Thompson, MB
#32 April, 1993	Winnipeg, MB	#72 November, 2011	Winnipeg, MB
#33 September, 1993	Prince Albert, SK	#73 May, 2012	Prince Albert, SK
#34 January, 1994	Winnipeg, MB	#74 November, 2012	Winnipeg, MB
#35 April, 1994	Baker Lake, NU	#75 May, 2013	Fort Smith, NWT
#36 September, 1994	Winnipeg, MB	#76 November, 2013	Winnipeg, MB
#37 January, 1995	Prince Albert, SK	#77 May, 2014	Regina, SK
#38 April, 1995	Black Lake, SK	#78 November, 2014	Winnipeg, MB
#39 September, 1995	Thompson, MB	#79 May, 2015	Flin Flon, MB
#40 February, 1996	Whale Cove, NU	#80 November, 2015	Winnipeg, MB



Photo credit: Bruno Croft

**BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU
MANAGEMENT BOARD**

Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2016

EPR STONEWALL
Chartered Professional Accountant*

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2016 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board as at March 31, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

EPR STONEWALL
Chartered Professional Accountant

Stonewall, Manitoba July 4,
2016

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD Statement of Financial Position March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 24,697	\$ 24,363
Accounts receivable	-	17,586
Goods and services tax recoverable	5,095	3,007
Prepaid expenses	500	-
	30,292	44,956
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS (Note 3)	33,827	30,619
\$	64,119	\$ 75,575
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,146	\$ 6,072
Payable to Scholarship fund	25,526	32,318
	32,672	38,390
NET ASSETS	31,447	37,185
\$	64,119	\$ 75,575

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Earl Evans, Chair, BQCMB



Ross Thompson, Executive Director, BQCMB

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Year Ended March 31, 2016

REVENUE

Core funding

INAC (Schedule 1)	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	25,000
Manitoba		15,000		15,000		15,000
Saskatchewan		25,000		20,000		19,500
Northwest Territories		25,000		25,000		25,000
Nunavut		25,000		25,000		25,000
		115,000		110,000		109,500

INAC	-	15,000	-
AANDC - Professional development	-	-	24,371
AANDC - Kiggavik review	-	-	16,820
AREVA	-	-	20,169
Government of NWT - Management plan	-	-	14,215
Other revenue	-	100	-
	-	15,100	75,575
	115,000	125,100	185,075

EXPENSES

Administration

Executive director fees and travel	27,500	33,062	24,897
Audit and bank charges	6,150	7,096	5,949
Meeting expense	4,000	4,854	6,020
Office expense	1,400	1,033	2,427
	39,050	46,045	39,293

Programs

AANDC Project: Website, orientation guide	1,000	-	24,371
BQCMB management plan development (NWT funds)	-	-	14,215
Kiggavik information request workshop	-	-	20,169
Kiggavik review	-	-	16,820
Advertising	16,750	20,084	19,274
Contracts - board support	48,000	38,537	27,448
Community projects	11,650	250 8,071	
Workshop	1,000	-	-
Communication, community information and dialogue project (Schedule 2)	17,000	8,856	31,442
Land use plan - Nunavut	-	17,066	-
	95,400	84,793	161,810
	134,450	130,838	201,103

DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$	(19,450)	\$	(5,738)	\$	(16,028)
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FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended March 31, 2016

		2016	2015
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	37,185	\$53,213
Deficiency of revenue over expenses		(5,738)	(16,028)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$	31,447	\$37,185

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	\$ (5,738)	\$(16,028)
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	17,586	12,414
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	1,075	(20,833)
Unearned review revenue	-	(9,467)
Prepaid expenses	(500)	1,385
Goods and services tax payable	(2,088)	688
Payable to Scholarship fund	(6,792)	32,318
	9,281	16,505
Cash flow from operating activities	3,543	477
INVESTING ACTIVITY		
Long term investments	(3,208)	(619)
Cash flow used by investing activity	(3,208)	(619)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	335	(142)
Cash - beginning of year	24,363	24,504
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 24,698	\$24,362

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2016

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (the “organization”) is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Corporations Act of Manitoba. As a registered charity the organization is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The organization operates to provide advice on the management of barren ground caribou and their habitat to aboriginal groups and federal and provincial governments. The Board is also involved in providing public education and information regarding these caribou, and monitoring caribou in relation to climate change.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFP). Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations are part of Canadian GAAP.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash and cash equivalents. Highly liquid investments with maturities of ninety days or less are classified as cash equivalents.

Financial instruments policy

The organization’s financial instruments consist of cash and accounts receivable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management’s opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Fund accounting

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. At this time the organization only uses the Operating Fund.

Revenues and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities are reported in the Operating Fund.

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD
Notes to Financial Statements
March 31, 2016

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

Revenue recognition

The organization follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

3. LONG TERM INVESTMENTS

Long term investments consist of guaranteed investment certificates bearing various interest rates. These investments are stated at cost.

4. PAYABLE TO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The amount consists of the excess of payments made to scholarship recipients less interest deposited for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board Scholarship Fund. The amount payable to Scholarship Fund is non-interest bearing, unsecured and has no specified terms of repayment.

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Statement of AANDC Core Funding

(Schedule 1)

March 31, 2016

	Budget	2015	2014
REVENUE			
INAC	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
EXPENDITURES			
Administration	25,000	25,000	25,000
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

Statement of Project Revenues and Expenditures

(Schedule 2)

March 31, 2016

	2016	2015
REVENUE		
AREVA	\$ -	\$ 20,169
Government of NWT - Management plan	-	14,215
	-	34,384
EXPENDITURES		
Public relations and education	2,856	22,850
Community projects	250	8,071
Communication, community information and dialogue	6,000	6,500
Kiggavik information request workshop	-	20,169
BQCMB management plan development (NWT funds)	-	14,215
	9,106	71,805
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ (9,106)	\$ (37,421)

**BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU
MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2015

EPR STONEWALL
Chartered Professional Accountant*

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund (*continued*)

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund as at December 31, 2015 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

EPR STONEWALL
Chartered Professional Accountant

Stonewall, Manitoba July 4,
2016

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2015

		2015		2014
ASSETS				
CURRENT				
Cash	\$	10,132	\$	2,944
DUE FROM RELATED PARTIES (Note 3)		25,525		31,699
	\$	35,657	\$	34,643
NET ASSETS	\$	35,657	\$	34,643

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Earl Evans, Chair, BQCMB



Ross Thompson, Executive Director, BQCMB

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
REVENUE		
Interest income	\$ 1,014	\$ 180
EXPENSES		
Scholarship distribution	-	1,500
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 1,014	\$ (1,320)

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

		2015		2014
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	34,643	\$	35,963
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses		1,014		(1,320)
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$	35,657	\$	34,643

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
OPERATING ACTIVITY		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 1,014	\$ (1,320)
Cash flow from operating activity	1,014	(1,320)
INVESTING ACTIVITY		10,000
RBC Guaranteed Investment Certificate		
Cash flow from investing activity		10,000
FINANCING ACTIVITY	6,174	(10,150)
Advances from related parties		
Cash flow from financing activity	6,174	(10,150)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	7,188	(1,470)
Cash - beginning of year	2,944	4,414
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 10,132	\$ 2,944

-

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Notes to Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

1. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund (the "organization") is a not-for-profit organization incorporated provincially under the Corporations Act of Manitoba. As a registered charity the organization is exempt from the payment of income tax under Section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The company operates to provide financial assistance by way of scholarship awards to full-time students enrolled at recognized Canadian colleges or universities whose studies contribute to the understanding of barren ground caribou and their habitat.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFP). Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations are part of Canadian GAAP.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash includes cash and cash equivalents. Highly liquid investments with maturities of ninety days or less are classified as cash equivalents.

Financial instruments policy

The organization's financial instruments consist of cash and accounts receivable. Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair value of these financial instruments approximate their carrying value.

Fund accounting

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. At this time, the organization only uses the Operating Fund.

Revenues and expenses related to program delivery and administrative activities are reported in the Operating Fund.

Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(continues)

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Notes to Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2015

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (*continued*)

Revenue recognition

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Scholarship Fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

3. DUE FROM RELATED PARTY

The amount receivable consists of term deposits made in the name of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, but held for the purpose of earning interest for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board Scholarship Fund. The amount receivable is non-interest bearing, unsecured and has no specified terms of repayment.

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ BARREN GROUND CARIBOU MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made on the 1st day of April 2012 BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, as represented by the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada (hereinafter referred to as “Canada”);

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, as represented by the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship (hereinafter referred to as “Manitoba”);

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF SASKATCHEWAN, as represented by the Minister of Environment (hereinafter referred to as “Saskatchewan”); and

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, as represented by the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources (hereinafter referred to as “Northwest Territories”);

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF NUNAVUT, as represented by the Minister of Environment (hereinafter referred to as “Nunavut”)

WHEREAS the Beverly herd and Qamanirjuaq herd of barren ground caribou historically migrate across provincial and territorial boundaries;

AND WHEREAS the continued well-being of these herds requires coordinated management, goodwill and cooperation amongst the above governments and the TRADITIONAL USERS of these caribou;

AND WHEREAS the parties hereto recognize that, as well as the value of the caribou to all Canadians generally, a special relationship exists between TRADITIONAL USERS and the caribou, worth more than \$15 million annually in subsistence value alone;

AND WHEREAS trends in population size and herd movements require coordinated information and project management among governments, communities, industry, organization and other stakeholders;

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSETH that the parties hereto under the authority of:

- (a) The Northwest Territories Act (1985), The Nunavut Act (1993);
- (b) The Manitoba Wildlife Act - section 84;
- (c) The Saskatchewan Wildlife Act - section 9;
- (d) The Northwest Territories Wildlife Act - section 27;
- (e) The Nunavut Wildlife Act - section 175 (1)

agree that:

A. Definitions in this Agreement

1. “Beverly herd” means that complex of barren ground caribou which utilizes range in Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, gives birth to its young near Beverly Lake and the Queen Maud Gulf area in Nunavut, and historically migrates into the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
2. “Qamanirjuaq herd” means that herd of barren ground caribou which utilizes range in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut traditionally bears its young near Qamanirjuaq Lake in Nunavut and historically migrates into Saskatchewan, Manitoba and the Northwest Territories.
3. “TRADITIONAL USERS” means those persons recognized by communities on the caribou range as being persons who have traditionally and currently hunted caribou for subsistence.
4. “HABITAT” means the whole or any part of the biosphere upon which the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds depend, including all of the land, water and air that they inhabit, cross or utilize at any time.
5. “Complex” means an aggregation of caribou that could potentially include females from more than one herd sharing use of a calving area.

B. The Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

1. A joint management board shall be maintained to be known as the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, hereinafter referred to as the “Board,” having the following objectives:
 - (a) to co-ordinate management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds in the interest of TRADITIONAL USERS and their descendants, who are residents on the range of the caribou, while recognizing the interest of all Canadians in the survival of this resource;
 - (b) to establish a process of shared responsibility for the monitoring of the herds and for the development of management programs between the parties hereto and the TRADITIONAL USERS of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds;
 - (c) to establish and enhance communications amongst TRADITIONAL USERS, between TRADITIONAL USERS and the parties hereto, and amongst the parties hereto in order to ensure coordinated caribou conservation and caribou HABITAT protection for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds;
 - (d) to discharge the collective responsibilities for the conservation and management of caribou and caribou HABITAT within the spirit of this Agreement.
2. Support shall be provided by the parties hereto to the Board in its efforts to achieve coordinated management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds by responding promptly to recommended measures.

C. Board Responsibilities

Without restricting the generality of clause B of this Agreement, the parties agree that the Board shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. To develop and make recommendations to the appropriate governments and to the groups of TRADITIONAL USERS for the conservation and management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds of barren ground caribou and their HABITAT in order to maintain the herds, as far as reasonably possible, at a size and quality which will sustain the requirements of TRADITIONAL USERS. Such recommendations may include, but are not necessarily limited to:

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

- (a) limitations on the annual harvest of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and the allocation of that harvest amongst the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba;
 - (b) criteria for regulating the methods of harvest;
 - (c) methods of TRADITIONAL USER participation to assist in the management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds;
 - (d) caribou research proposals;
 - (e) recommended standardized data collection and presentation;
 - (f) a herd management plan for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds which will include consideration of traditional knowledge, where available; and will take into account the maintenance of the natural balance of ecological systems; the protection of wildlife HABITAT; and the maintenance of vital, healthy wildlife populations capable of sustaining lawful harvesting needs.
 - (g) plans, processes and permit conditions for land use and human activities on the ranges.
2. To monitor the caribou HABITAT over the entire ranges of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds so as to facilitate the maintenance and protection of productive caribou HABITAT.
 3. To conduct an information program and hold such public meetings as are necessary to report on and discuss with TRADITIONAL USERS its responsibilities, findings and progress.
 4. To assess and report on the operation of its herd management plan to appropriate governments and TRADITIONAL USER groups.
 5. To submit to the parties hereto annual reports which shall include:
 - (a) a summary of Board activities, recommendations and responses by governments and TRADITIONAL USERS;
 - (b) a review of the state of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds and their HABITAT;
 - (c) a summary of harvests by jurisdiction and community;
 - (d) a financial statement for the operation of the Board.
 6. To consider any other matters respecting the management of barren ground caribou that are referred to the Board by the parties hereto or Board members. The Board may also consider any other matters respecting the management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds referred to the Board by any other person or organization.

D. Membership of the Board

1. Up to fifteen members shall be appointed to the Board as follows:
 - (a) The Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, Government of Canada; the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, Government of Manitoba; the Minister of Environment, Government of Saskatchewan; the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories; and the Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut, and each shall each appoint one senior official from their respective ministries for a total of five members.
 - (b) the Minister of Conservation and Water Stewardship, Government of Manitoba, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Manitoba for a total of two members;
 - (c) the Minister of Environment, Government of Saskatchewan, shall appoint two residents from the communities of Northern Saskatchewan for a total of two members; and may appoint a third resident from the communities of Northern Saskatchewan;

- (d) the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of the Northwest Territories, shall:
 - i) where recommended by the Akaitcho Government, appoint one resident from the community of Lutsel K'e, Dene First Nation, Northwest Territories;
 - (ii) where recommended by the Métis Nation of the Northwest Territories, appoint one resident from the communities in the South Slave Region of the Northwest Territories; for a total of two members;
 - (e) the Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut, shall, where recommended by the Kivalliq Wildlife Board, appoint two residents from the communities in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut and may appoint a third resident from the communities of the southern Kivalliq region of Nunavut.
2. The members of the Board shall be appointed for a term of five years, subject to the right of the parties to terminate the appointment of their respective appointees at any time and reappoint Board members in accordance with the above.

E. Board Rules and Procedure

1. The Board shall establish in writing from time to time rules and procedures for its functioning, provided however that:
- (a) the Chair and Vice-Chair shall be elected from amongst the members of the Board by secret ballot;
 - (b) the election and replacement of the Chair and the Vice-Chair shall be by simple majority;
 - (c) thirty days notice of meeting shall be given by mail, telephone, fax or e-mail, as appropriate;
 - (d) eight members shall constitute a quorum;
 - (e) decisions of the Board shall be by consensus wherever possible, and shall always require a majority voting in favour, with each member having one vote;
 - (f) no voting by a proxy shall be allowed;
 - (g) the Board shall hold formal meetings twice yearly or more often as necessary at the call of the Chair;
 - (h) the Board shall keep summary minutes and records of all its meetings and circulate them amongst its members;
 - (i) the Board may establish or dissolve standing committees as it deems necessary to carry out its functions, and set the terms of reference for such standing committees;
 - (j) the Board members unable to be present at Board meetings shall receive notice of Board recommendations thirty (30) days in advance of submission to any minister for action, except where there is consent of all Board members in which case recommendation to the Minister(s) can be made forthwith.

F. Finances

1. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to funds being appropriated by the legislative authority in respect of each party on an annual basis the parties hereto shall annually provide funds necessary to ensure the Board functioning in a manner herein before stated provided, however, that all costs for the Board shall not exceed \$125,000.00 annually and that all such annual costs shall be shared equally amongst the parties to this Agreement in accordance with section F-2 below. In extraordinary circumstances, if a party is unable to provide costs beyond \$15,000.00 annually, such party shall provide in-kind services or support not to exceed \$10,000.00, to assist with duties, responsibilities and annual expenditures in Sections C and F-3 below, provided that a majority of the parties and the Board approve, such undertaking to be confirmed in writing.

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

2. Prior to the administrative costs for the Board being eligible to be shared by the parties hereto, the Board shall be required to submit to each party an annual estimate of the financial administrative costs, not exceeding \$125,000.00 in each year, and each party shall in writing within thirty days of receipt thereof, indicate its approval or disapproval for such budget and provide reasons therefore. In the event that a majority of the parties hereto approve the annual budget for the administrative costs, the budget shall be shared equally by all parties hereto.
3. Administrative costs to be shared amongst the parties hereto shall include expenditures related to:
 - (a) a secretariat to provide for and follow up on meetings, record and distribute minutes, provide members with informational support, maintain the operation of the Board between meetings, and undertake such other organizational arrangements as the Board may require;
 - (b) the production of an annual report and its distribution;
 - (c) a modest independent research review capability;
 - (d) the production of a newsletter, and other informational and educational materials; and production and maintenance of a website;
 - (e) such other costs as the parties may agree upon.
4. Each party shall be responsible for funding the expenses for salaries or honoraria and other incidental travel expenses, including transportation, meals, accommodation related to Board members appointed or confirmed by that party. The provisions for said expenses shall be in addition to the annual administrative costs provided in section F-1 above.
5. The Board shall annually account for all monies received and disbursed and said records shall be available to any of the parties for inspection upon thirty days written notice to the Chairman.

G. General

1. All reports, summaries or other documentation prepared or otherwise completed under the terms of this Agreement shall become the joint property of all parties hereto and any and all income derived there from shall be jointly shared amongst the parties in proportion to expenditures incurred by each party in generating such income.
2. The parties are committed to taking all actions under this Agreement in a way that respects any Treaty or Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples relating to the hunting of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren ground caribou.
3. This Agreement shall take effect on the 1st day of April, 2012, and shall terminate on the 31st day of March, 2022, unless sooner terminated, for any reason, by any of the parties hereto upon six month's notice in writing to the other parties.
4. In recognition of the importance of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and their HABITAT, the withdrawal of any of the parties from this Agreement shall not preclude the remaining parties from continuing with the objectives and processes set out in this Agreement.
5. This Agreement may be amended at any time by an exchange of letters following unanimous approval by the parties hereto.
6. This Agreement supersedes the Beverly-Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement made between Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut on the 1st day of April, 2002.

IN MEMORIAM



Photo credit: Marion Soubliere

Gunther Abrahamson
Oct. 27, 1926 — April 8, 2016

BQCMB Founding Member and
Secretary-Treasurer
1982-2004

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board
P.O. Box 629
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