



ANNUAL REPORT

2023/24



BEVERLY & QAMANIRJUAQ
CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

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Letter to Ministers

The Hon. Gary Anandasangaree, Minister
Crown-Indigenous Relations
House of Commons
Parliament Buildings
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

The Hon. Ian Bushie, Minister
Manitoba Natural Resources and Indigenous Futures
Legislative Building, Room 301
450 Broadway
Winnipeg, MB R3C 0V8

The Hon. Jay Macdonald, Minister
Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Climate Change
P.O. Box 1320
Legislative Assembly
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2L9

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

The Hon. Travis Keisig, Minister
Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
Legislative Building, Room 322
2405 Legislative Drive
Regina, SK S4S 0B3

Dear Ministers:

I have the honour of presenting the 42nd Annual Report of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, together with the financial statements, for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024.



Earl Evans, Chair
Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

2023/24

In Memoriam

The BQCMB was saddened by the passing of three long-time members and Elders over the past year.



August Enzoe, from Łutsël K'e Dene First Nation, Northwest Territories, served on the BQCMB on several occasions, most recently from 2017 until 2023.

He will be missed by many, including the BQCMB members and staff who benefited from the knowledge he shared with us over more than two decades.



Ernie Bussidor, of Sayisi Dene First Nation, Manitoba, became a BQCMB member in 2017. His wisdom, songs and drumming were a beloved part of each meeting he attended.

Ernie was also a recipient of the Queen Elizabeth Silver Jubilee Medal of Recognition in 2023, recognized his 40 + years of promoting and taking part in cultural activities such as drum singing, handgames, and land-based teachings for Dene youth, and for creating the Seal River Watershed Initiative.



Joe Marten, a member of Fond du Lac Denesųliné First Nation, Saskatchewan, was an alternate member of the BQCMB since 2014 who rarely missed a meeting. He was a passionate board member who was dedicated to caribou conservation.

We will miss his friendship and laughter at our meetings.



Message from the Chair

Earl Evans

"We also know caribou populations cycle over long time spans and scientific knowledge does not yet have a complete cycle of data. We have much more to learn."

As Chair of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board (BQCMB), I am pleased to present the 2023-2024 annual report. Since its creation in 1982, the BQCMB has brought together Indigenous peoples and government wildlife managers from across northern Canada to work toward the common goal of conserving the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds.

This past year we finalized the board's 5th ten-year Barren-Ground Caribou Management Agreement, which will be in effect until 2032. This agreement is the first in history to include Indigenous governments as signatories alongside the Governments of the Northwest Territories (NWT), Nunavut, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Canada.

While the Athabasca Denesųliné of northern Saskatchewan; the Ghotelnene K'odtjneh Dene of northern Manitoba; the Inuit of the Kivalliq Region of Nunavut; the Łutsēl K'ē Dene First Nation, NWT; and the Northwest Territory Métis Nation have always had a seat at the table, becoming signatories to the agreement creates a true nation-to-nation partnership. We were pleased to welcome Tłıchų Government, NWT as a new member and signatory to the agreement, as well.

We also came closer to finalizing our guiding document for the next decade. As of this writing, BQCMB staff have put the finishing touches on the 10-year Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Plan, the culmination of two years of meetings with BQCMB members, communities and individuals to determine the board's priorities for caribou conservation over the next decade.

I can't understate how much effort our staff put into researching, planning and creating this document. Executive Director Tina Giroux-Robillard, former Wildlife Biologist Leslie Wakelyn, Wildlife Biologist Gilly McNaughton, and Communications Specialist Lynne Bereza worked extremely hard on this plan and the fruits of their labours do not go unnoticed. I'd like to

give special acknowledgment to Leslie, who retired at the end of 2024 after serving the BQCMB for 27 years. Her dedication to this board was unparalleled and I wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement from the board.

We received the results of the 2022 population survey of the Qamanirjuaq herd. The final estimate is 252,892, down from 288,200 animals in 2017, or a reduction of about 2%. This indicates a continued slow decline of the herd, which has dropped by 49% since 1994, when 496,000 caribou were estimated.

While we can be cautiously optimistic that the herd is not declining faster, we also know caribou populations cycle over long time spans and scientific knowledge does not yet have a complete cycle of data. We have much more to learn.

We are also awaiting the results of a survey of the Beverly herd which took place in June 2023. Survey results can take a long time due to unforeseen challenges that require the results to be double and triple-checked for accuracy. I appreciate the efforts of the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (GN-DOE) in conducting these population surveys, and especially our BQCMB member Mitch Campbell, Regional Wildlife Biologist, who thoroughly updates the board each meeting.

In closing, I'd like to dedicate this report, and the work it highlights, to our BQCMB members who passed away this year. August Enzoe (Łutsēl K'ē Dene Nation, NWT), Joe Marten (Fond du Lac Denesųliné First Nation, SK), and Ernie Bussidor (Sayisi Dene First Nation, MB) shared their wisdom, leadership and most of all, friendship with us all at the BQCMB. They are missed.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Earl Evans".

Earl Evans,
Chair

Message from Executive Director

Tina Giroux-Robillard

“Two guiding principles emerged: the need to share responsibility for the herds and the actions to support them, and the need to put caribou first in the caribou-human relationship.”



It has been an extremely productive and rewarding year for the BQCMB.

Not only do we have a new 10-year Management Agreement which ensures our work can continue through at least 2032, we have a completed 10-year Caribou Management Plan to guide us. This Plan – called “Caribou is Life” – will set the stage for not just the BQCMB, but caribou people from across the range to work cooperatively for the benefit of the herds and the people who rely on them.

We recognized early on in the process of developing this plan that working in silos does not benefit the herds; and out of our discussions with board members, communities and individuals across the range two guiding principles emerged: the need to share responsibility for the herds and the actions to support them, and the need to put caribou first in the caribou-human relationship. I am extremely proud of the work we have done on this plan and excited to share it with you all in 2024/25.

It was also a year of change for the BQCMB, as longtime wildlife biologist Leslie Wakelyn retired from the board. Leslie was an enormous help to me over the past year, as her experience and knowledge of caribou informed a great deal of the management plan. And while I am grateful to have had Leslie’s expertise and guidance in this pivotal year for the board, what I will truly miss is her friendship. I wish Leslie every happiness in her retirement from the BQCMB.

I am also grateful to welcome Gilly McNaughton as the board’s new wildlife biologist. Gilly hails from Inuvik, Northwest Territories and brings a wealth of knowledge around caribou and a great depth of experience in working with Indigenous peoples. I am excited for the BQCMB’s future with Gilly on board.

Our Youth and Elder Engagement program continued to be a highlight of BQCMB meetings over the past year. Indigenous youth and Elders came together to share and learn from each other and to exchange perspectives with board members and observers at our May and November 2023 BQCMB meetings in Yellowknife, NWT and Churchill, MB respectively.

I was fortunate to attend the North American Caribou Workshop and Arctic Ungulate Conference in Anchorage, Alaska in May 2023. The theme of the conference was “Crossing Boundaries” and about 600 people from across North America and Europe attended. I also had the opportunity to participate in a panel discussion called “Caribou Crossing: Collaborative Stewardship in a Changing Environment,” during which several caribou co-management specialists discussed successful ways Indigenous and local organizations, biologists and managers work together to conserve herds.

It is no surprise to me that this panel struck a similar tone to our upcoming Caribou Management Plan, by recognizing the value of collaboration in safeguarding these herds for current and future generations. We can’t do it alone.

This past year has been both meaningful and challenging, marked by the loss of several long-serving board members. As Elders, their guidance and wisdom have left a lasting impact on us all, and I am committed to honoring their legacy by applying the lessons they shared to further strengthen and advance the Board’s work.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Tina Giroux-Robillard".

Tina Giroux-Robillard
Executive Director

2023/24 Board Members

BOARD MEMBER	REPRESENTING
CANADA	
Erik Allain	Government of Canada (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Iqaluit, NU)
Atuat J. Shouldice - Alternate	Government of Canada (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs, Rankin Inlet, NU)
NUNAVUT	
Mitch Campbell	Government of Nunavut (Environment, Arviat)
Simon Enuapik	Communities of the Kivalliq Region (Kivalliq Wildlife Board)
Stanley Adjuk	Communities of the Kivalliq Region (Kivalliq Wildlife Board)
MANITOBA	
Vicki Trim	Government of Manitoba (Natural Resources and Northern Development, Thompson)
Joanie Kennah - Alternate	Government of Manitoba (Natural Resources and Northern Development, Thompson)
Ernie Bussidor	Communities of Northern Manitoba (Sayisi Dene First Nation, Tadoule Lake)
Napoleon Denechezhe	Communities of Northern Manitoba (Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet)
Joe Dantouze - Alternate	Communities of Northern Manitoba (Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet)
NORTHWEST TERRITORIES	
Jan Adamczewski - Vice Chair, Operations	Government of Northwest Territories (Environment and Climate Change, Yellowknife)
Earl Evans - Chair	Communities in the South Slave region (Northwest Territory Métis Nation, Fort Smith)
Ken Hudson (Alternate)	Communities in the South Slave region (Northwest Territory Métis Nation, Fort Smith)
August Enzoe	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (Akaitcho Government, Lutsel K'e)
Jennifer Jonasson	Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation (Akaitcho Government, Lutsel K'e)
SASKATCHEWAN	
Matthew Tokaruk	Government of Saskatchewan (Ministry of Environment, Prince Albert)
Katherine Mehl	Government of Saskatchewan (Ministry of Environment, Saskatoon)
Dennis Larocque	Communities of Northern Saskatchewan (Camsell Portage)
James Laban	Communities of Northern Saskatchewan (Black Lake Dēnesūliné First Nation)
Joe Marten - Alternate	Communities of Northern Saskatchewan (Fond du Lac Dēnesūliné First Nation)

Executive Committee & Staff



Pictured above L to R: Jan Adamczewski, Vice-Chair, Operations; Earl Evans, Chair; Tina Giroux-Robillard, Executive Director; and Vicki Trim, Vice-Chair, Administration



Pictured L to R: Lynne Bereza, Communications Specialist; Leslie Wakelyn, Wildlife Biologist; Tina Giroux-Robillard; and Gilly McNaughton, Wildlife Biologist

2023/24

Year in Review

Government of Nunavut

The Government of Nunavut Department of Environment (GN-DOE) released the results of its successful June 2022 population survey of the Qamanirjuaq herd. The total estimated number of adult caribou in the herd is 252,892, down from 496,000 in 1994 – an overall decline of 49%.

GN-DOE is not planning further management actions at this time but will continue to monitor the herd. It hopes to conduct another population estimate of the herd in 3-4 years.

GN-DOE also conducted an abundance survey of the Beverly herd in June 2023. The visual survey was challenging due to the caribou presenting in unusually dense groups (a “clumping effect”) that was attributed to atypical environmental conditions such as lack of snow and surging river conditions. Results are expected in early 2025.

Previous results from 1994 (276,000), 2011 (136,000) and 2018 (103,372) point to a 63% decline in the herd since 1994. Hunters and Trappers Organizations in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut have indicated their main concerns for this herd’s decline are predators changing the herd’s range, commercial exploration activities during calving season, and climate change impacts.

GN-DOE is not looking for further management actions at this time but will continue to monitor the herd. It hopes to get another estimate in 3-4 years.

Government of Northwest Territories

Barren ground caribou have been listed as “Threatened” under the Species-at-Risk Act in the NWT since 2018. There is a recovery strategy in place for all NWT barren-ground caribou under the Conference of Management Authorities.

In March 2023, the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) conducted a late winter composition survey of the Beverly, Bathurst, and Bluenose-East caribou herds. The survey showed extensive mixing among the herds on the winter range. Using collar data to differentiate the herds, the area was identified as being predominantly occupied by Beverly caribou, with about 82% belonging to the Beverly herd and the remaining 18% coming from the Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds. The ratio of calves to cows in this area was approximately 44 calves per 100 cows. Over the past four years, ratios have consistently exceeded 40 calves per 100 cows, which is an encouraging sign for the Beverly herd’s outlook. Recent fall composition surveys indicate little herd mixing on the fall/rutting range and healthy calf to cow ratios. As of March 2023 the Beverly herd had more collars than in any previous years, including 43 on adult females (cows) and 28 on adult males (bulls), for a total of 71.



Credit: iStockphoto



Credit: Lynn S. Rollin

Since 2020, an incentive wolf harvesting program has been coordinated by the GNWT and Tłıchǫ Government, specifically targeting the ranges of the Bathurst and Bluenose-East caribou herds. Those two herds were declining rapidly in 2018. From January-April 2023 142 wolves were harvested in the incentive area, for a total of 431 wolves over the 4 years of the program. The GNWT provides incentives for wolf harvesters in areas with Bathurst and Bluenose East caribou which are tracked using satellite collars. The Beverly herd might also benefit from reduced wolf predation, as they are using similar areas during late winter as the Bathurst and Bluenose-East herds.

Wildfire activity has increased dramatically in the NWT. Between 1950 and 2023, an average of 5,000km² burned annually. In 2023, wildfires burned more than an estimated 41,000km², forcing the evacuation of several NWT communities, including Yellowknife.

Preparatory work is taking place for the first phase of the proposed Slave Geological Province Road Corridor which would connect Yellowknife by all-season road

to the Nunavut border. Additionally, a proposed project that aims to develop a road connecting Gray's Bay and a proposed deepwater port in the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut to the Slave Geological Province Road Corridor in the NWT. The Nunavut Impact Review Board has recommended that the proposed Grays Bay port and road project undergo an environmental assessment. The Tłıchǫ Government has asked for a strategic environmental assessment to be conducted of the entire Slave Geological Province Road Corridor.

An all-season road in this area would affect many caribou herds, including the Beverly and Bathurst herds. These projects would not connect any communities, instead serving to incentive mining development throughout the area. Roads can create serious barrier effects for migratory barren-ground caribou and can enable increased harvest pressure from people when pickup trucks can be used rather than skidoos on trails. The impacts of increased harvest pressure from road access has been a continual problem with the existing seasonal Tibbitt to Contwoyto road in the NWT.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's northern forests continue to be valuable winter habitat for the Qamanirjuaq and Beverly barren-ground caribou herds. The Ministry of Environment recognizes the importance of the land and the herds to northern communities and Indigenous caribou people. The province continues to support the BQCMB and collaborative management of barren-ground caribou through community involvement in the board.

Caribou, particularly the Qamanirjuaq herd, have been using northeastern Saskatchewan in the winter months for the last several years and this has allowed certain communities easier access to caribou. However, many still need to travel long distances to harvest caribou, and some are not able to access caribou all.

Saskatchewan will continue to look for opportunities to support the monitoring and management of barren-ground caribou by sending community members to assist on surveys and working at local levels on collaborative educational opportunities.

Manitoba

In Manitoba, there are 800 total licenses available for residents to hunt caribou – 350 for fall and 450 for winter. Last fall there were only 170 licenses total sold out of the 800 available. There is no requirement for resident hunters to report their harvest.

250 licenses are available for non-resident hunters, with 5 lodges allocated 50 licenses each. Non-residents who come into Manitoba to hunt must go through one of these lodges.

Both resident and non-resident hunting has dropped since 2015, as caribou in Manitoba have been inconsistent since then. However, caribou came into Manitoba in fall 2023 and subsequently a few were harvested by licensed hunters.

There is quite a lot of mineral exploration taking place in Manitoba but not in barren-ground caribou range areas.



Credit: Geoff Bussidor

2023/24

BQCMB Achievements

Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement 2023-2032

Following over a year of negotiations, the BQCMB's new 10-year Management Agreement was officially finalized, and the BQCMB was given its 5th 10-year mandate. The long-awaited Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement 2023-2032 was signed by the governments of Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Canada, and included a much-needed increase to the BQCMB's annual funding.

It was also the first Agreement in BQCMB history to include Indigenous governments as signatories, including the Athabasca Denesuliné, Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene, Inuit of the Kivalliq Region, Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation, Northwest Territory Métis Nation, and new member, Tłicho Government (see sidebar).

After 41 years, a true "Nation to Nation" relationship has been established within the BQCMB.

2023-2032 Caribou Management Plan

The 2023-2032 Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Plan (CMP) process began in early 2022. To engage with Indigenous peoples, staff held community meetings in all jurisdictions throughout 2022 and 2032 and the input gathered helped staff develop an updated and improved CMP. The BQCMB also assisted in coordinating Traditional Knowledge interviews with Elders from Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene communities in Tadoule Lake and Lac Brochet to document caribou harvesting protocols.

In addition, a working group of BQCMB members had several meetings, both in-person and virtual, to discuss the plan, and all BQCMB members participated in the development of the plan during 2022 and 2032 BQCMB meetings and through their reviews of drafts.

Project funding for this work included funds from Environment and Climate Change Canada's Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk and the Species at Risk Act Consultation, Cooperation, and Accommodation project administered by the Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources.

The 2023-2032 Caribou Management Plan was released in May, 2024.

New BQCMB Member: Tłicho Government

The BQCMB's recently signed 2023-2032 Management Agreement allows each of the four jurisdictions—Nunavut, the Northwest Territories, Manitoba and Saskatchewan—to have representation from up to three members recommended by Indigenous Governments or organizations whose peoples have traditionally harvested from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds. Previously only Saskatchewan and Nunavut had this opportunity.

After consulting over several months with seven eligible NWT Indigenous governments to gauge interest, the GNWT supported Tłicho Government as a new signatory—the BQCMB's first new party to the agreement in 24 years.

Tłicho Government—or "TG" as Northwest Territorians refer to it—joins Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation and the Northwest Territory Métis Nation as the third NWT Indigenous party to the BQCMB.



After 41 years, a true "Nation to Nation" relationship has been established within the BQCMB.

Top Issues for Caribou and Harvesters

Status of the Herds

The final results of the 2022 Qamanirjuaq herd survey were released this past year and show a continued slow decline of the herd.

The final estimate is 252,892, down from 288,200 animals in 2017, or a reduction of about 2%.

The number of caribou on the calving grounds has slowly gone down with the Qamanirjuaq calving grounds shifting northeast and their winter range shifting west. It is important to note that caribou populations cycle over long time spans and that scientific knowledge does not have a complete cycle of data. Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) has knowledge of these cycles and that we have more to learn.

A successful population survey of the Beverly herd was conducted in June 2023. However, results have not yet been released. Surveyors faced numerous challenges during the survey, as a environmental conditions including a lack of snow and surging rivers created a clumping situation with the herd. Due to these unforeseen challenges results are being double and

triple-checked for accuracy before being released.

The last population survey of the Beverly calving ground in June 2018 revealed the herd has decreased significantly since 2011, from about 136,600 to about 103,400 animals. These numbers represent a decline of 24% since 2011, or 4-5% per year.

The Government of Nunavut plans to conduct the next surveys of the Qamanirjuaq and Beverly herds in 4-5 years.

Protection of caribou habitat – Nunavut Land Use Plan

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) submitted its 2023 Recommended Nunavut Land Use Plan (RNLUP) for approval on June 20, 2023. The RNLUP is now before the plan’s signatories—the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. (NTI). There is no set timeline for approval of the plan.

The BQCMB has been providing written input into the plan since 2010. In late 2022, the BQCMB traveled to Rankin Inlet, NU and Thompson, MB

to participate in the final hearings for the plan for the Kivalliq region.

Loss of caribou habitat

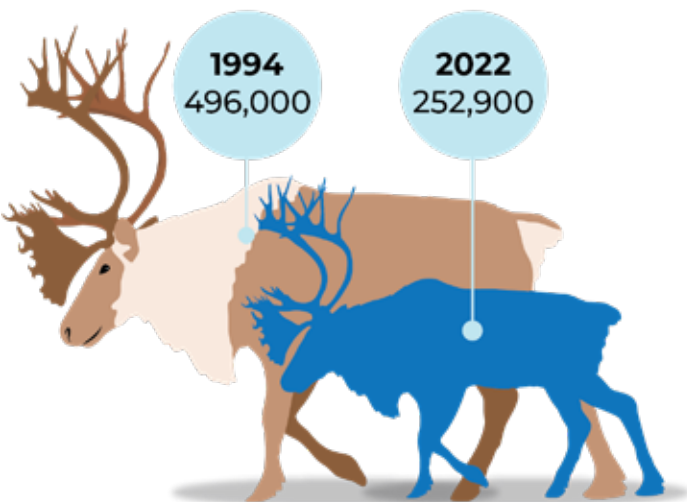
Barren-ground caribou require vast, uninterrupted habitat areas in order to thrive. However, human activities such as commercial and industrial development along with the construction of seasonal or all-season roads, can disrupt these habitats, creating significant challenges for caribou that impact their health and survival. Climate-related impacts are further disrupting, and in some cases, destroying critical caribou habitats. While humans cannot control natural forces, they can manage their actions. Potential solutions include wildfire management, land use planning, and protected areas, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs).

Development

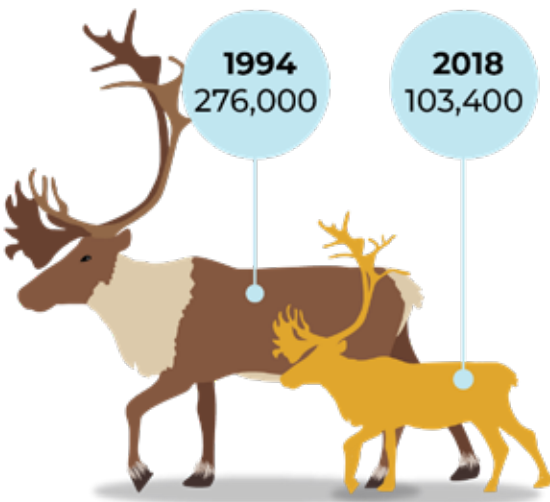
Over the past year the BQCMB continued to monitor several potential developments on the range.

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) held its final hearing on the Meliadine Mine expansion proposal

Qamanirjuaq Herd Decline



Beverly Herd Decline



in September 2023. The project is on the Qamanirjuaq herd's post-calving range, which was a major issue, as was a proposed new windfarm. NIRB recommended the extension proposal not be allowed to proceed at this time due largely to the high degree of uncertainty about the potential impacts the expanded project would have on caribou. The decision to accept NIRB's recommendation or not will be made by the federal government.

The Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link project is a potential trans-boundary project that has been in the pre-development phase for many years. This project is proposing the development of a 1,200-kilometre overhead hydroelectric transmission line between the Gillam, Manitoba area and the Kivalliq region of Nunavut. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency previously provided \$11.6 million in funding to support the planning and feasibility phase of this project, and in early 2024 the Federal Minister of Northern Affairs announced an additional 2.8 million in funding to advance the Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link project to the next phase of development. While still in the pre-development phase, this project is of particular concern because of its impact on Qamanirjuaq caribou key habitat areas including calving ground, post-calving grounds, migratory corridors and overwintering areas. These key habitats are well-documented to be critical for barren-ground caribou during times of the year where they are particularly vulnerable.

Climate change

At its May 2023 meeting in Yellowknife, the board invited Brad Woodworth, Climate Change Adaptation Ecologist with GNWT-ECC to give a presentation on "Adapting wildlife conservation and management to climate change in the north." The takeaway message from this presentation was that caribou habitats need to be connected for caribou to be able to move freely between seasonal ranges and preferred habitats to allow them to respond to changing conditions.

The BQCMB believes any decisions regarding the northern landscape should be climate-informed going forward. Changes are already being observed by people who rely on the caribou and the land.

Wildfires

Climate change is also having an effect on wildfires, which are burning longer and hotter, further damaging caribou habitat. The impact of wildfires in the Northwest Territories in 2023 was widely felt, as many BQCMB members and staff were evacuated from their homes. Between 1950 and 2023, an average of 5,000km² burned annually in the NWT. In 2023, NWT wildfires burned more than an estimated 41,000km². Wildfires are harmful for caribou because they can destroy lichen, a key food source, which takes more than 40 years to grow back. Burned areas also fragment caribou habitat, forcing them to move farther for food which increases their risk of predation and requires them to expend more energy. Additionally, wildfires disrupt migration routes make it harder for caribou to reach important habitat areas such as calving and winter range areas, which can cause them stress and impact their reproductive success.



Credit: Bill Braden

TOP ISSUES FOR CARIBOU AND HARVESTERS

Disrespectful Hunting and Sustainable Harvest

Disrespectful hunting and wastage continued to be a concern across barren-ground caribou ranges. BQCMB members have identified that the operation of winter roads typically leads to excessive harvest. In addition, the use of high-powered rifles creates more wounding and wastage.

Drugs and alcohol are also a factor in improper and unsafe hunting practices. Increased monitoring and educational programs are needed to ensure proper hunting protocols are being observed.

In addition, many youth no longer have the opportunity to learn proper hunting techniques. The BQCMB has identified education and Elder-youth connections as a priority to address this situation.

Chronic Wasting Disease

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a fatal nervous system disease that affects members of the deer family (known as cervids), which are not only deer, but include moose, elk and caribou. It spreads when an infected animal sheds

protein cells into the environment and another animal ingests them. In Canada, CWD has been found in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Quebec. The first confirmed case of CWD in Manitoba was detected in a mule deer in 2021, whereas the first CWD infection in Saskatchewan was found in imported elk in 1996. Since then, it has spread to wild deer, elk and moose populations in southern parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta. BQCMB members are working to prevent spread of CWD by educating themselves and their communities about the disease, reporting observations of sick, injured or dead wildlife to government disease specialists, and submitting samples for testing from harvested deer, caribou, moose, and elk.

Caribou as a Species at Risk

Eight barren-ground herds, including the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds, are listed as a Threatened species in the Northwest Territories under territorial Species-at-Risk (SAR) legislation. A federal listing is being considered for all barren-ground caribou herds in Canada. The BQCMB supports this, as long as existing Indigenous harvest rights are maintained and a legal Duty to Consult will be required if any changes that might affect those rights are considered in the future.



Credit: Napoleon Denechezhe

2023/24

Top Issues for the BQCMB

Implementation of the Caribou Management Plan

BQCMB's new Caribou Management Plan will be the board's guiding document until 2032. Much of 2024/25 will be focused on forming an implementation plan for the document, including presentation of the Plan to the board and other stakeholders, holding a facilitated session for BQCMB members to determine their priorities for the first year, developing a workplan for staff, and distributing the Plan.

Kivalliq Harvest Reporting Project

The Kivalliq Harvest Reporting Project began in 2017/18 and ran until 2021. The BQCMB collects harvest data to inform decisions about caribou management and communities in the Kivalliq region were interested in obtaining this information as well. The BQCMB adapted the approach used by the ADNLC, which has been collecting harvest information from the Athabasca communities for over 10 years.

Funding provided by the Nunavut General Monitoring Plan (NGMP) to support Kivalliq communities to collect Qamanirjuaq caribou harvest survey data ended in the 2023-2024 year. In December 2023 BQCMB staff attended the Kivalliq Wildlife Board (KWB) AGM to determine if there was interest in BQCMB supporting them to find funding to pursue this project further. This is dependent on the KWB and/or Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) having the capacity to coordinate the project and take it on.

The BQCMB will continue to work with the KWB and HTOs to assist in moving this project or a similar harvest collection program forward.



Credit: Mathieu Dumond

BQCMB Communications

New BQCMB logo

With the signing of an historic new Barren Ground Caribou Management Agreement and completion of the 10-year Caribou Management Plan, the BQCMB decided it was also timely to update its logo.

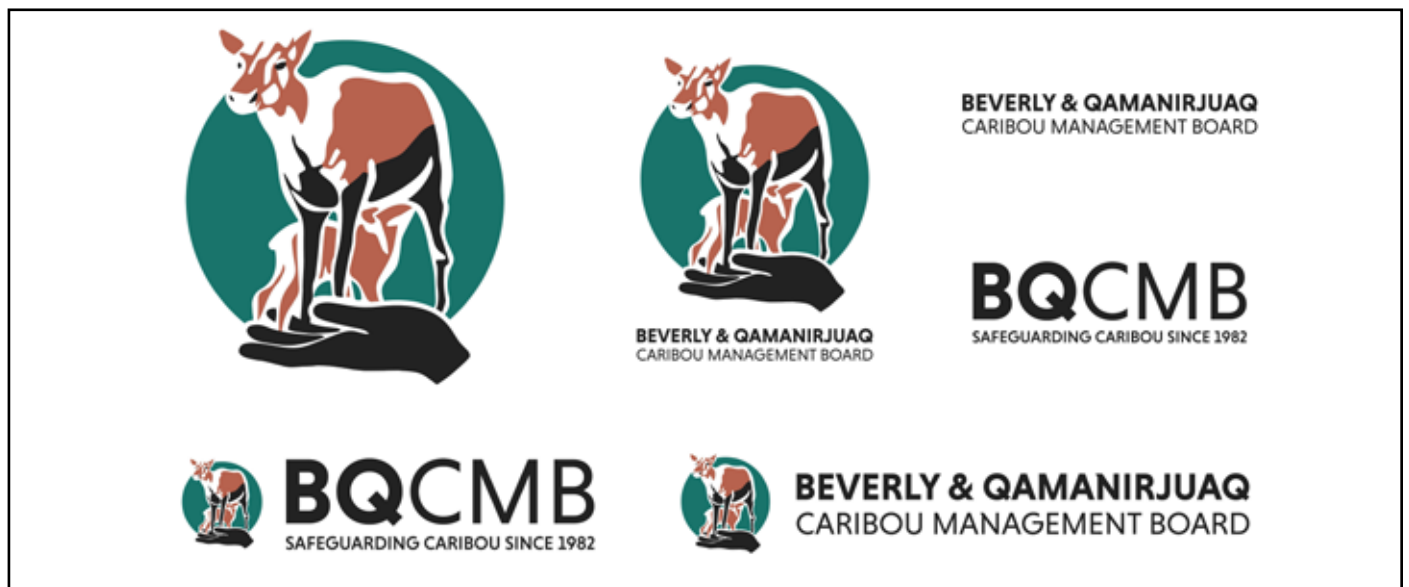
The new logo's image of a cow and her calf being held in a human hand signifies the strong connection between people and caribou. It also represents the great responsibility we collectively have to conserve the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou herds for future generations.

There is also a personal connection between the BQCMB and its new logo. The image was inspired by a pencil drawing by Jan Adamczewski, the BQCMB's Vice-Chair, Operations and board member representing the Government of Northwest Territories.

We are grateful to Jan for allowing us to interpret his drawing in logo form so this message can be shared widely.



Credit: Leslie Wakelyn



Social Media

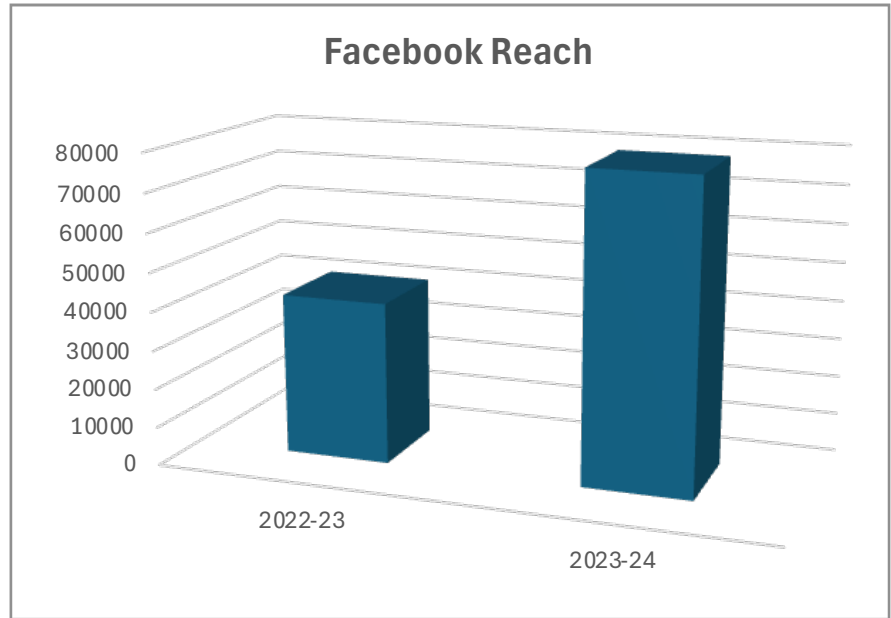
The BQCMB's Facebook page continues to attract visitors and last year saw an increase from 41,757 in 2022-23 to 79,000 in 2023-24.

The BQCMB's new Instagram page gained 112 followers over the year.

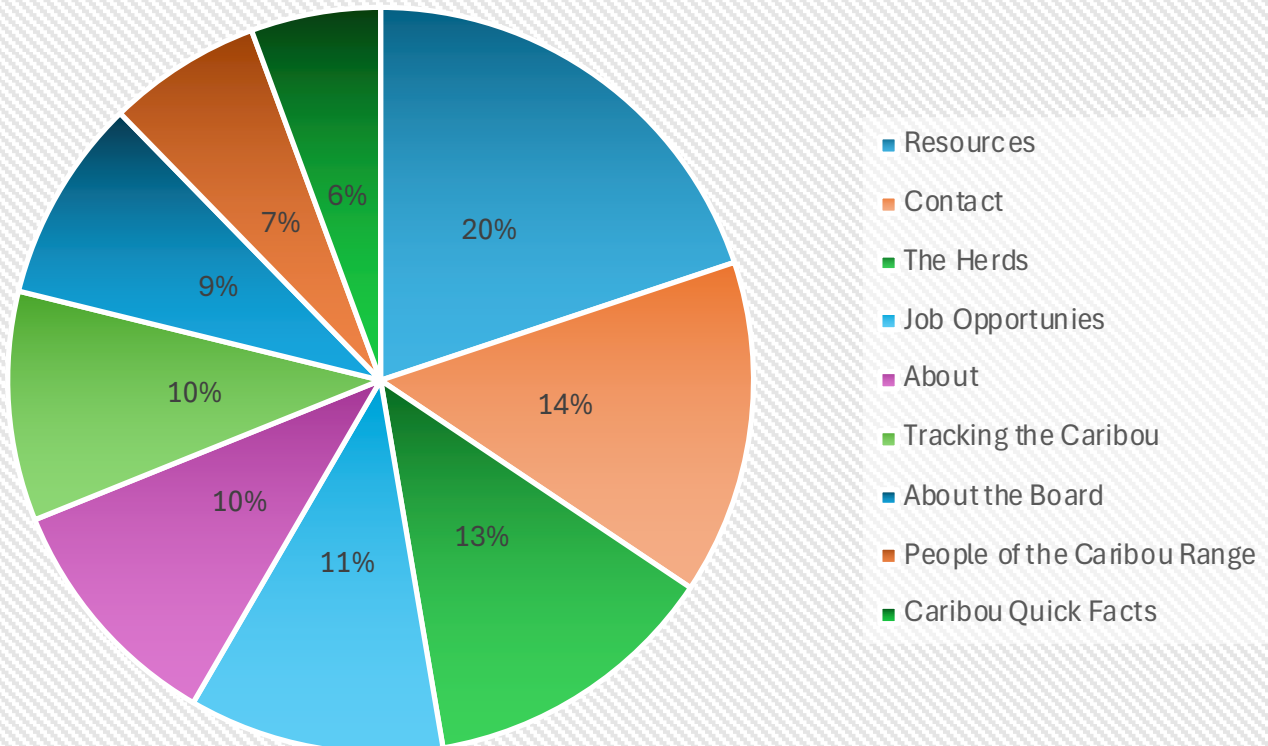
Website

The BQCMB website at <https://arctic-caribou.com> had 7,800 visitors over the past year, up from 5,100 the previous year.

The most visited pages are highlighted in the chart below.



BQCMB Website Most Visited Pages



Find us online:



arctic-caribou.com



facebook.com/BQCMB/



Instagram.com/BQCMB



youtube.com/@BQCMB

2023/24

Education

Youth Representatives at BQCMB Meetings

NWT youth representatives Quinn Rabesca, from Behchoko NWT, and Roger Catholique, from Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation (LKDFN) NWT, attended the BQCMB's spring 2023 meeting in Yellowknife. The youth were accompanied by Elders Doris Enzoe, from Łutsël K'é, and Joseph Moosenose, from Whatì, NWT.

Rabesca told the BQCMB he has loved hunting since he was a child. "My grandpa used to drag me out. He'd say, 'You're going to be the future provider for this family', so he'd pack my stuff and say, 'let's go'. Now I do that with my friends. I try to encourage them to come with me hunting. I don't like them sitting at home."

Catholique also learned from his grandpa. "He taught me to respect the land and the animals, the caribou. There's a few my age that go out, not so much though. I always try to tell people to not waste meat; to have respect for animals, for nature, and one another."

These future leaders have also observed the effects of climate change. "Climate is really different; it's warmer than before," says Catholique.

"I think the main disturbance is humans; we're the apex predators of the world here. We have to make a change right now before it's too late. Why wait until the last minute to do the change; why not take action now? That's what I say."

During the BQCMB's meeting November 21-23 in Churchill, youth representatives Shakayla Antsanen from Northlands Denesuline First Nation, Lac Brochet, MB and Été Zoe from Tłıcho Government, Behchoko, NWT were in attendance.

Shakayla gave a presentation on the Seal River Watershed, a proposed Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA). She explained it is an area where the lands and waters are protected by the Dene and Cree people who live there.

Shakayla said "I'm very proud of myself with the presentation I did for Seal River Watershed, although it was nerve wracking for my first time! I think this meeting was very important for the caribou, and for us and other communities to know what's happening and what's going on with the caribou."

Été gave a presentation about her participation in Tłıcho's Boots on the Ground program. Été's chaperone, Stephanie Behrens, noted "we call her 'eagle eyes' because she can spot a caribou a mile away. It's been a joy having Été work with us, she's got such a bubbly personality, and she brings a lot to our organization. Having these youth be involved and seeing them grow into this field and carrying on the work we're trying to do is very important."

Credits: Lynne Bereza



BQCMB On The Land Program

Elder-Youth Caribou Hide Workshop

Churchill, Manitoba was the setting for a Caribou Hide Workshop on February 8 and 9, 2024 funded by the BQCMB's "On The Land Camp" program. Workshop coordinator Heather Spence-Botelho, along with partners the Sub-Arctic Friendship Group, Churchill Womens' Program, and Warrior Caregiver brought together youth and Elders to learn and work on caribou hides.

"Gathering together in an environment set up with caribou hides, poles, frame, tools, etc. was a great way to gather and learn different ways (Dene/Inuit/Cree) to tan caribou hides," said Spence-Botelho, a Cree/Dene Knowledge Weaver.

She led the workshop along with Florence Hamilton, a Dene Knowledge Keeper, hunter, and trapper who has a lot of hide work experience, "We scraped two caribou hides and the students all had an opportunity to work on the hides and take in many teachings."

The experience was beneficial to the students, according to Spence-Botelho. "There is traditional knowledge in our community, and so much interest from local men and women to take part and help keep these teachings around."

Spence-Botelho was grateful to be selected after applying for a grant of \$2,500 to hold the workshop. "This was the very first time having this beautiful teaching in the school/community, and this is all due to your support and funding."

Credits: Heather Spence-Bothelo





Credit: Iris Catholique

Thaidene Nene On The Land Program

Over the winter months from December to March 2023, the Ni Hat'ni Dene guardians and local Elders led weekly workshops and training for Denegoth students from Lutsel K'e Dene School. The students participated in the following activities:

- Ice safety awareness
- Setting and checking nets, cleaning and cooking fish
- Setting and checking traps and fur preparation
- Harvesting meat and safe food storage
- Sharing fish and meat with Elders
- Tanning caribou hides and making drums
- Storytelling and Denesuline history
- Wilderness safety and camp maintenance
- Trip and weather planning and navigation
- Dene Laws
- Caribou stewardship and respectful hunting protocols
- Harvesting and using traditional medicines

The Ni Hat'ni Dene program was designed to pass on teachings to youth. Local children and youth received hands-on activities and training from Ni Hat'ni Dene guardians, Elders, and local harvesters.

In partnership with the Lutsel K'e Dene School, all grades from pre-K to grade 12 were invited to Hide Camp for the weekly programming.

All participants were fully immersed in the traditional Denesuline way of life. Students brought fresh meat and fish home to their families and Elders. There was travel on land by skidoo from Lutsel K'e to the hide camp on the camp days. The camp ran from February to May.

The BQCMB was pleased to provide a portion of the funding for this camp through its On The Land Camp program.



2023/24 Financial Statement

Financial Report

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MARCH 31, 2024

This information is an excerpt from the audited financial statements which can be found at arctic-caribou.com.

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$82,174	\$124,448
Term deposits	37,909	35,862
Accounts receivable	9,117	56,620
Interest receivable	541	-
Due from government agencies	7,201	3,901
Prepaid expenses	2,712	1,250
	\$138,654	\$222,081
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$52,242	\$65,151
Payable to Scholarship fund	31,761	30,228
Deferred revenue	-	80,889
	85,003	176,268
NET ASSETS	53,651	45,813
	\$138,654	\$222,081

Financial Report

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

This information is an excerpt from the audited financial statements which can be found at arctic-caribou.com.

	2024	2023
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$45,813	\$31,374
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	7,838	14,439
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$53,651	\$45,813

Financial Report

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

This information is an excerpt from the audited financial statements which can be found at arctic-caribou.com.

	2024	2023	BUDGET
REVENUE			
Core Funding			
CIRNAC	50,002	25,000	50,000
Manitoba	50,000	25,000	50,000
Saskatchewan	50,000	25,000	50,000
Northwest Territories	50,020	25,000	50,000
Nunavut	50,000	25,000	50,000
Kivalliq Region	10,000	-	10,000
Ghotelnene K'Odtjneh Dene	10,000	-	10,000
Tlicho Government	10,000	-	10,000
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation	10,000	-	10,000
Athabasca DNNLC	10,000	-	10,000
	300,022	125,000	300,000
Other Funding			
Athabasca DNNLC	-	20,000	-
Canada Helps Promo	106	2,974	-
Caribou Management Plan	25,178	70,367	-
Interest earned	15	592	-
Management Agreement	35,051	14,949	-
NGMP Harvest Reporting	20,760	11,446	-
Surveys	-	125,000	-
WWF - Nunavut Land Use Plan	-	24,247	-
Youth/Elder Participation	5,000	29,200	-
	86,110	298,775	-
	386,132	423,775	300,000
EXPENSES			
Administration	292,305	134,127	285,000
Programs	85,989	275,209	-
	378,294	409,336	285,000
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 7,838	\$ 14,439	\$ 15,000

Financial Report

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2024

This information is an excerpt from the audited financial statements which can be found at arctic-caribou.com.

	2024	2023
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 7,838	\$ 14,439
Changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	46,961	(56,620)
Prepaid expenses	(1,462)	(473)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(11,908)	(5,940)
Deferred contributions	(80,889)	(92,156)
Due from government agencies	(3,300)	(604)
	(42,760)	(141,354)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from (payments to acquire) term deposits	(2,047)	132,378
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Net proceeds from (payments to) Scholarship fund	\$1,533	(4,956)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW	(43,274)	(13,932)
CASH - BEGINNING OF YEAR	124,448	138,380
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$81,174	124,448

Financial Report

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ CARIBOU MANAGEMENT BOARD

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

This information is an excerpt from the audited financial statements which can be found at arctic-caribou.com.

	2024	2023	BUDGET
ADMINISTRATION			
Audit and Bank Charges	\$ 6,914	-	\$ 8,000
Bad debt	15,000	-	-
Caribou News	4,588	9,936	5,000
Chairperson Stipend	9,000	6,000	9,000
CMP Implementation	37,106	-	35,000
Communication Specialist	34,491	21,215	40,000
Contract Biologist	39,946	44,342	40,000
Executive Director fees	33,566	19,874	45,000
Meeting Expense	14,757	3,867	16,000
Office Expense	5,241	3,717	5,500
On the land camps	6,250	-	5,000
Reports	1,000	6,519	4,500
Travel	28,969	9,924	24,000
Website Fees	1,328	901	500
	292,305	134,127	285,000
PROGRAMS			
Caribou Management Plan	25,178	70,367	-
Management Agreement	35,051	14,949	-
NGMP Harvest Reporting	20,760	11,446	-
Surveys	-	125,000	-
WWF - Nunavut Land Use Plan	-	24,247	-
Youth/Elder Participation	5,000	29,200	-
	85,989	275,209	-
	\$378,294	\$409,336	\$285,000

**Beverly and
Qamanirjuaq Barren
Ground Caribou
Management
Agreement 2023-2032**

BEVERLY AND QAMANIRJUAQ BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made on the 24 day of July 2023 BETWEEN:

THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, as represented by the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (hereinafter referred to as “Canada”);

and

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources and Northern Development (hereinafter referred to as “Manitoba”);

and

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

and

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

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

and

THE ATHABASCA DENESŪLINÉ;

and

GHOTELNENE K’ODTĪNEH DENE;

and

THE INUIT OF THE KIVALLIQ REGION;

and

THE TŁĪCHQ GOVERNMENT;

and

THE ŁUTSĚL K’É DENE FIRST NATION;

and

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES MÉTIS NATION.
(the PARTIES).

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 among the above public and Indigenous governments and Indigenous organizations;

AND WHEREAS the Parties hereto recognize that, as well as the value of the caribou to all Canadians generally, a special relationship exists between Indigenous harvesters and the caribou;

AND WHEREAS coordinated information and project management among Indigenous and public governments, communities, organizations and by industry and other stakeholders is required for determining trends in population size, herd movements, seasonal habitat requirements and other key information;

NOW THEREFORE 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 Northwest Territories Wildlife Act – section 12;
- (d) The Nunavut Wildlife Act – section 175 (1)
- (e) The Nunavut Land Claims Agreement – section 5.9.5
- (f) The Saskatchewan Wildlife Act – section 9; agree that:

A. Definitions in this Agreement

1. “Beverly herd” means barren-ground caribou which give birth to their young in the Beverly Lake and the Queen Maud Gulf areas in Nunavut, and migrate into the Northwest Territories, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.
2. “Qamanirjuaq herd” means barren-ground caribou which give birth to their young near Qamanirjuaq Lake in Nunavut and migrate into Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and the Northwest Territories.
3. “Indigenous harvesters” means First Nation, Metis, and Inuit people who hold Indigenous rights to harvest Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou.
4. “Habitat” means all parts of the ecosystem upon which the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds depend, including all the land, water and air they use at any time.
5. “Management” means the methods, procedures and practices which are necessary to ensure the health and conservation of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and the maintenance of their habitat,

which may include but are not limited to the following activities: research, surveys, monitoring, public information, education, harvest studies, harvesting restrictions, law enforcement, land use and habitat conservation, predator management and other functions provided for in this Agreement.

6. "Harvest" means to hunt, shoot, kill, harm, wound, capture, trap or collect or gather caribou or parts of caribou for any purpose, or attempt to engage in such activities.
7. "Minister" means the appropriate responsible Minister of the public governments.
8. "Indigenous governments" means those Indigenous governments recognized by the Inuit, First Nation and Metis and mandated to participate in the BQCMB.
9. "Public governments" means the federal, provincial, and territorial governments that are Parties to this Agreement.

B. Objectives of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board

A joint management board shall be known as the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Caribou Management Board, hereinafter referred to as the "Board," having the following objectives:

1. To co-ordinate management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds with Indigenous harvesters while promoting the spirit and intent of reconciliation and recognizing the interest of all Canadians in the survival of this species.
2. To establish a process of shared responsibility among the public and Indigenous governments for the monitoring and management of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds.
3. To establish and enhance communications among Indigenous harvesters, among Indigenous harvesters and the public and Indigenous governments here to, and among the public and Indigenous governments hereto, in order to promote coordinated conservation of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou and their habitat.
4. To implement the collective responsibilities for the conservation and management of caribou and caribou habitat protection within the spirit of this Agreement.

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. Develop and make conservation and management recommendations to public and Indigenous governments concerning Beverly and Qamanirjuaq 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 Indigenous harvesters. Such recommendations may be made concerning topics including, but not necessarily limited to:

- (a) sustainable use of caribou, based on acceptable levels of harvest in relation to herd size, trend and vulnerability level, respectful harvest, and harvest reporting;
 - (b) inclusion of recommended management actions, Indigenous knowledge (when appropriate) and traditional protocols from Indigenous governments and harvesters;
 - (c) caribou research proposals;
 - (d) monitoring, including monitoring methods, intensity, indicators and standardized data collection and presentation; and
 - (e) plans, processes and permit conditions for land use and human activities on the ranges.
2. To develop a management plan for the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds which will include Indigenous knowledge, where available; and, that 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. To assess and report on the implementation of the herd management plan to appropriate public and Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities.
 3. To coordinate information on the health of caribou habitat for inclusion in land use and vulnerability assessments of the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq herds and ranges to facilitate the maintenance and protection of productive caribou habitat.
 4. Provide information to and gain feedback from the public and Indigenous harvesters through information programs and public meetings; discuss responsibilities, findings, and progress; and request input for identifying Board priorities.
 5. To submit to the Parties annual reports which shall include:
 - (a) a summary of Board activities, recommendations and responses by public and Indigenous governments;
 - (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, when possible; and
 - (d) a financial statement for the operation of the Board.
 6. To consider any other matters respecting the conservation and management of barren-ground caribou that are referred to the Board by the Parties, Board members, or any other person or organization.

D. Membership of the Board

1. Up to seventeen (17) members shall be appointed to the Board as follows:

- (a) The Ministers for the Governments of Canada, Manitoba, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Saskatchewan shall each appoint one senior official from their respective Ministries for a total of five (5) members;
 - (b) the Minister for Manitoba shall confirm appointments of up to three (3) members:
 - (i) two (2) who are residents of the communities of Lac Brochet and Tadoule Lake as recommended by the Northlands and Sayisi Denesų́liné First and;
 - (ii) one (1) resident of the community of South Indian Lake, as recommended by the O-Pipon-Na-Piwin Cree Nation;
 - (c) the Minister for Northwest Territories shall confirm appointments of up to three (3) members:
 - (i) who are recommended by the NWT Indigenous governments or Indigenous Organizations who have traditionally harvested from the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou herds.
 - (d) the Minister for Nunavut shall confirm appointments recommended by the Kivalliq Wildlife Board of up to three (3) members who are residents of the communities of Arviat, Baker Lake, Chesterfield Inlet, Rankin Inlet, or Whale Cove in the Kivalliq region of Nunavut.
 - (e) the Minister for Saskatchewan shall confirm appointments of up to three (3) members:
 - (i) up to two (2) residents from the First Nation communities of Fond du Lac, Black Lake or Hatchet Lake as recommended by the Athabasca Denesų́liné Né Né Land Corporation, and
 - (ii) one (1) resident of the communities of Camsell Portage, Uranium City, Stony Rapids or Wollaston Lake Post as recommended by the province of Saskatchewan.
2. All Parties indicated above will recommend alternate members, who will represent members when they are unable to attend Board meetings. The Ministers shall confirm appointments of alternate members upon receipt of notification from the Parties.
 3. The members of the Board, and their alternates, shall be appointed for a term of five years whenever practicable, 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.
 4. Upon receipt of notification from the Parties, the Ministers shall confirm the nominations and appointments of alternate members, who will represent members when they are unable to attend Board meetings.

E. Board Rules and Procedure

The Board shall establish in writing, from time-to-time, rules and procedures for its functioning, provided however that:

1. The Chair and two Vice-Chairs (Administration and Operations) shall be elected from among the members of the Board by secret ballot and simple majority, for three (3) - year terms.
2. Thirty (30) days' notice of bi-annual Board meetings shall be given by e-mail, mail, fax or telephone, as appropriate.
3. Fifty percent plus one (50% +1) Board members physically present shall constitute a quorum. The Board may modify the requirement for being physically present by permitting use of tele- or video- conferencing facilities.
4. Decisions of the Board shall be by consensus wherever possible, and when a vote is appropriate, shall require a majority vote in favour, with each member having one vote. In case of a tie, the Chair shall be able to vote.
5. No voting by a proxy shall be allowed.
6. The Board shall hold formal in-person meetings twice yearly or more often as necessary at the call of the Chair, and the Board shall, whenever practicable, meet in communities on the Beverly and Qamanirjuaq caribou range.
7. The Chair may call additional virtual meetings to discuss unforeseen and time-sensitive topics.
8. Board meetings are generally public meetings, although portions of any meeting may be held in- camera or designated for specified targeted audiences, when appropriate.
9. The Board shall keep summary minutes and records of its meetings, circulate them among its members and post them publicly on its website upon approval by the Board.
10. 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.

F. Finances – Annual Core Funding for Board Operations

1. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and to funds being appropriated by the respective authority of each Party on an annual basis, the Parties hereto shall annually provide funds necessary to ensure the Board's capacity to function as outlined in this Agreement.
2. Parties shall submit annual contributions as early as possible each year, preferably within the first quarter of the fiscal year.
3. 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 \$300,000.00 in each year, and each Party shall in writing within thirty days of receipt thereof, indicate its approval, or if a Party disapproves it shall provide reasons.

In the event a majority of the Parties hereto approve the annual budget for the administrative costs, the budget shall be shared by the public governments each contributing \$50,000, and by the Indigenous government parties each contributing \$10,000.

4. Administrative costs to be shared amongst the Parties hereto shall include expenditures related to:
 - (a) maintaining a Secretariat to organize, provide for and follow up on meetings, record and distribute minutes, provide members with informational support, maintain the operation of the Board between meetings, monitor and report on annual budget and expenditures and undertake such other organizational and administrative arrangements as the Board may require, which will be provided for through hiring an Executive Director as a part-time employee (with salary and benefits);
 - (b) payment to the Chairperson of a salary or honorarium, and all travel, accommodation and related expenses incurred while working on Board activities, in accordance with federal Treasury Board guidelines.
 - (c) capacity for independent research and review through hiring a Wildlife Biologist as a part-time employee (with salary and benefits);
 - (d) hiring a Communication Specialist as a part-time employee (with salary and benefits) to produce and distribute annual reports, periodic newsletters and other informational and educational materials; produce and maintain a website and social media presence; and provide capacity for enhanced communications;
 - (e) enhancing community engagement and support;
 - (f) capacity for increasing youth participation in Board meetings and other Board activities, as appropriate;
 - (g) coordinating and overseeing implementation of the Caribou Management Plan by Parties, and conducting appropriate aspects of its implementation (e.g., communications and education);
 - (h) performing vulnerability assessments of each herd and its habitat;
 - (i) hosting Board meetings in range communities, when feasible;
 - (j) such other costs as the Parties may agree upon.
5. The Board shall annually account for all core funding contributions received and disbursed through annual audited financial statements and said records shall be available to any of the Parties for inspection upon thirty days written notice to the Chairman.

G. Other Responsibilities of the Parties

1. 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 promptly reviewing and implementing recommendations submitted by the Board, when possible.

2. Each public government shall be responsible for funding the expenses related to Board members appointed or confirmed by that Party attending Board meetings (or alternate members when members are unable to attend), including for salaries or honoraria and travel expenses, including transportation, meals, and accommodation. Out-of-province/territory travel will be required. The provisions for said expenses shall be in addition to the annual core funding for Board operations described in section F above.
3. The Parties are committed to taking all actions under this Agreement in a way that respects any Treaty or Indigenous rights of Indigenous peoples relating to the harvest and use of Beverly and Qamanirjuaq barren-ground caribou.

H. 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 funds provided shall be jointly shared among the Parties in proportion to expenditures incurred by each Party in generating such funds.
2. This Agreement shall take effect on the 1st day of April 2023 and shall remain in effect until terminated on the 31st day of March 2032, unless sooner terminated, for any reason, by any of the Parties hereto upon six months' notice in writing to the other Parties.
3. 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 an amended Agreement among the remaining Parties to continue the joint management board with the objectives and processes set out in this Agreement.
4. This Agreement may be amended at any time by an exchange of letters following unanimous approval by the Parties hereto.
5. 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 2012, as amended by unanimous approval of the Parties in 2022.

**Beverly and Qamanirjuaq Barren Ground
Caribou Management Agreement
2023-2032**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed and delivered this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.


WITNESSES TO THE AGREEMENT

Signed on Behalf of the Government of Canada, as
represented by the Minister of Crown-Indigenous
Relations and Northern Affairs Canada


Witness




Signed on Behalf of the Government of Manitoba, as
represented by the Minister of Natural Resources and
Northern Development


Witness




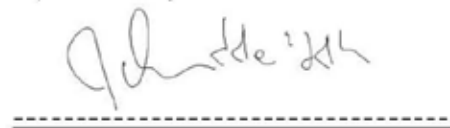
Signed on Behalf of the Government of Northwest
Territories, as represented by the Minister of
Environment and Climate Change


Witness



Signed on Behalf of the Government of Nunavut, as
represented by the Minister of Environment


Witness



Signed on Behalf of the Government of Saskatchewan,
as represented by the Minister of Environment


Witness
Emni Eltassi


Dana Skoropad

ATHABASCA DENESŪLINÉ



Witness



Black Lake Denesūliné First Nation



Witness



Fond du Lac Denesūliné First Nation



Witness



Hatchet Lake Denesūliné First Nation

THE INUIT OF THE KIVALLIQ REGION;

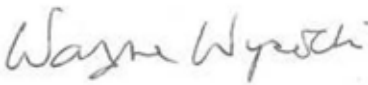
Amy Kaludjak

Witness



Kivalliq Wildlife Board


MANITOBA FIRST NATIONS




Witness



Northlands Dene First Nation

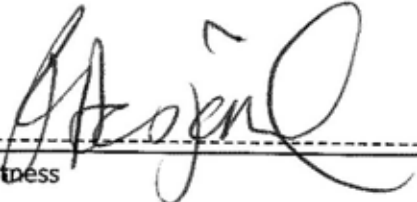


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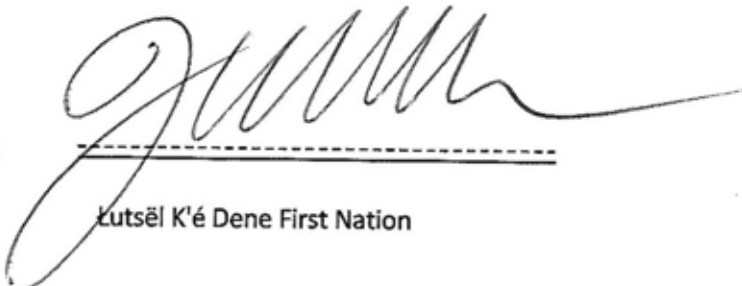


Sayisi Dene First Nation

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES INDIGENOUS ORGANIZATIONS



Witness



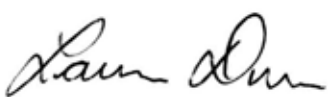
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation




Witness



Northwest Territories Métis Nation



Witness



Tłıchǫ Government

BQCMB Meetings

- 1 - August 1982 Saskatoon, SK
- 2 - January 1983 Edmonton, AB
- 3 - March 1983 Lutsel K'e, NT
- 4 - June 1983 Yellowknife, NT
- 5 - September 1983 Black Lake, SK
- 6 - January 1984 Winnipeg, MB
- 7 - April 1984 Rankin Inlet, NU
- 8 - August 1984 Fort Smith, NT
- 9 - November 1984 Saskatoon, SK
- 10 - April 1985 Baker Lake, NU
- 11 - August 1985 Whitehorse, YK
- 12 - November 1985 Edmonton, AB
- 13 - April 1986 Thompson, MB
- 14 - August 1986 Arviat, NU
- 15 - April 1987 Saskatoon, SK
- 16 - August 1987 Winnipeg, MB
- 17 - November 1987 Fort Smith, NT
- 18 - April 1988 Winnipeg, MB
- 19 - August 1988 Stony Rapids, SK
- 20 - November 1988 Winnipeg, MB
- 21 - April 1989 Baker Lake, NU
- 22 - August 1989 Lac Brochet, MB
- 23 - December 1989 Winnipeg, MB
- 24 - April 1990 Fond du Lac, SK
- 25 - August 1990 Lutsel K'e, NT
- 26 - December 1990 Winnipeg, MB
- 27 - March 1991 Yellowknife, NT
- 28 - August 1991 Prince Albert, SK
- 29 - December 1991 Fort Smith, NT
- 30 - April 1992 Arviat, NU
- 31 - December 1992 Uranium City, SK
- 32 - April 1993 Winnipeg, MB
- 33 - September 1993 Prince Albert, SK
- 34 - January 1994 Winnipeg, MB
- 35 - April 1994 Baker Lake, NU
- 36 - September 1994 Winnipeg, MB
- 37 - January 1995 Prince Albert, SK
- 38 - April 1995 Black Lake, SK
- 39 - September 1995 Thompson, MB#
- 40 - February 1996 Whale Cove, NU
- 41 - June 1996 Lutsel K'e, NT
- 42 - November 1996 Winnipeg, MB
- 43 - June 1997 Wollaston Lake, SK
- 44 - November 1997 Thompson, MB
- 45 - May 1998 Tadoule Lake, MB
- 46 - November 1998 Fort Smith, NT
- 47 - May 1999 Arviat, NU
- 48 - November 1999 Winnipeg, MB
- 49 - May 2000 Churchill, MB
- 50 - November 2000 Winnipeg, MB
- 51 - June 2001 Black Lake, SK
- 52 - November 2001 Yellowknife, NT
- 53 - May 2002 Baker Lake, NU
- 54 - November 2002 Winnipeg, MB
- 55 - May 2003 Fond du Lac, SK
- 56 - November 2003 Winnipeg, MB
- 57 - May 2004 Fort Smith, NT
- 58 - November 2004 Winnipeg, MB
- 59 - May 2005 Rankin Inlet, NU
- 60 - November 2005 Winnipeg, MB
- 61 - May 2006 Prince Albert, SK
- 62 - November 2006 Winnipeg, MB
- 63 - June 2007 Thompson, MB
- 64 - November 2007 Winnipeg, MB
- 65 - May 2008 Fort Smith, NT
- 66 - November 2008 Winnipeg, MB
- 67 - May 2009 Prince Albert, SK
- 68 - November 2009 Winnipeg, MB
- 69 - May 2010 Wollaston Lake, SK
- 70 - October 2010 Winnipeg, MB
- 71 - May 2011 Thompson, MB
- 72 - November 2011 Winnipeg, MB
- 73 - May 2012 Prince Albert, SK
- 74 - November 2012 Winnipeg, MB
- 75 - May 2013 Fort Smith, NWT
- 76 - November 2013 Winnipeg, MB
- 77 - May 2014 Regina, SK
- 78 - November 2014 Winnipeg, MB
- 79 - May 2015 Flin Flon, MB
- 80 - November 2015 Winnipeg, MB
- 81 - May 2016 Saskatoon, SK
- 82 - November 2016 Winnipeg, MB
- 83 - May 2017 Prince Albert, SK
- 84 - November 2017 Winnipeg, MB
- 85 - May 2018 Prince Albert, SK
- 86 - November 2018 Winnipeg, MB
- 87 - May 2019 Winnipeg, MB
- 88 - November 2019 Arviat, NU
- 89 - November 2020, Virtual
- 90 - May 2021, Virtual
- 91 - November 2021, Virtual
- 92 - May 2022, Winnipeg, MB
- 93 - November 2022, Prince Albert, SK
- 94 - May 2023, Yellowknife, NWT
- 95 - November 2023, Churchill, MB



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