

Board In-Person Meeting Minutes



July 3-7, 2017

Nunasi Genesis Room, 5109 48 St, Yellowknife

Minutes by Deborah Simmons

List of Acronyms/Terms Used

ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦ	Renewable Resources Council
ENR	NWT Environment and Natural Resources
NWT	Northwest Territories
SRRB/Board	ᑕᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦ ᑕᑦᑕᑦ (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board)

Participants

Board Members

Michael Neyelle (Chair), Jimmy Dillon, Camilla Rabisca, George Barnaby, Jeffery Walker, Patrick Bobinski

Special Advisors

Leon Andrew, Frederick Andrew, Walter Bezha

Staff

Deborah Simmons, Lori Ann Lennie

Invited Guests – Strategic Planning Workshop

Christine Wenman, PlanIt North, facilitator
Lorraine Land, OKT Law, legal counsel
Janet Winbourne, technical writer

Invited Guests – Regular Meeting

Deborah Lewis, CIBC Global Asset Management Inc.
Laani Uunila, Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve

Invited Guests – Joint Meeting with Colville

Colville Lake delegates

Wilbert Kochon, Jennifer Duncan, Hyacinth Kochon, Agnes Oudzi, Joseph Kochon, David Codzi, Natanda Oudzi, John Blancho

NWT Environment and Natural Resources

Heather Sayine-Crawford

Agenda

Opening

- Opening prayer, introductions/Review of agenda

Strategic Planning Workshop

- Overview: What is strategic planning?
- Implementing the land claim agreement: Land claim objectives
- Sharing the story of ʔehdzo Got'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı
 - Values and principles
 - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
- The story of ʔehdzo Got'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı – the next chapter
 - Lessons learned and progress made
 - Brainstorm: Where do we want to go?
 - Goals, actions, timeline, gaps
 - How do we know if we are doing well?
 - Recap of key consensus concepts

Regular Meeting

- Approval of Wildlife Studies Fund investment plan
- Overview of Nááts'ıhch'oh National Park Reserve Management Plan
- Review of Colville Caribou Management Plan
- Approval of previous meeting minutes
- Hiring of On the Land Coordinator and intern
- Wildlife Studies Fund scope review (11 am)
- Follow-up from Bluenose East ʔekwé Hearing (11:30 am)

Joint Meeting with Colville – Caribou Management Plan

- Opening
 - Introductions
 - Review of agenda
- Bluenose East Management and Arakə Túé
- Colville presentation of draft Caribou Management Plan
- SRRB questions
- Consensus process for finalizing and approval of the Caribou Management Plan
- Mechanisms for plan implementation
- Cross-District and cross-regional considerations
- Near term opportunities
 - Taking Care of Caribou Plan – community knowledge for status assessment
 - Harvest Study review
 - Harvest reporting 2016-2017
 - Wildlife Act “alternative measures” clause
 - Collaborative non-invasive research

Day 1 – Monday, July 3

Meeting called to order at approximately 2:30 pm.

Opening

- Quorum check – 4/6 voting members/alternates
- Opening prayer by Michael Neyelle

Strategic Planning Workshop

Overview: What is strategic planning?

Presentations by Christine Wenman and Janet Winbourne

Strategic planning objectives (Christine Wenman)

- Review the Board’s past track record and lessons learned
- Adjust to changing external context
- Set priorities for our work
- Communicate about our approach and priorities to achieve recognition and support

Previous plans (Janet Winbourne)

- Summary of key issues and priorities addressed in 1999 and 2009 strategic plans
- There’s a lot of continuity with issues in both previous plans, and issues identified in recent interviews with Board Members and Special Advisors

Adjourned for the day at 5:00 pm approximately.

Day 2 – Tuesday, July 4

Meeting called to order at approximately 9:15 am.

Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

Opening

- Review of key messages from previous day and agenda for today (Christine Wenman)

Implementing the land claim agreement: Land claim objectives

Presentation by Deborah Simmons

- Review of Section 1.1.1 objectives, noting that objectives c, d, f, g, and h – five out of the total of nine objectives in the land claim – are directly relevant to the Board
- Section 13.1.1 objectives are interpreted in relation to the overarching objectives in Section 1.1.1. Each of the objectives can be considered as components of a single picture.
- Section 14 on Forest Management also outlines Board responsibilities.

Sharing the story of ʔehdzo Got'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı

Mandate, Values and principles

Presentation by Christine Wenman

- Discussion of draft texts for scope of mandate and guiding principles based on land claim objectives.
- Need to review Bluenose East ʔekwę Hearing Report to ensure that we haven't missed any key principles that were crystallized there.
- Acknowledgement that the draft may be added to as we progress through the strategic planning steps.

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats

Presentations by Lorraine Land and Janet Winbourne

- Overview of results of 12 recent interviews with Board Members, Special Advisors, and staff, with a focus on strengths and weaknesses (Janet Winbourne).
- Overview of external environment – opportunities and threats (Lorraine Land).

Adjourned for the day at 5:00 pm approximately.

Day 3 – July 5

Meeting called to order at 9:15 am approximately.

Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

The story of ʔehdzo Got'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı – the next chapter

Lessons learned, progress made

Presentation by Janet Winbourne

- Discussion: Dene Ts'ıı (Dene way of life or being Dene) approach – we get together to strategize and find our way when times are hard; we are directed by the people.
- Summary of recent Board Member/Special Advisor and staff interview responses to lessons learned question.

Regular Meeting

Approval of Wildlife Studies Fund investment plan

Presentation by Deborah Lewis

- Proposed revision to Wildlife Studies Fund investment policy to include international equities so that it may be possible to take advantage of potential for increased returns.
- Examples of companies might be included in an international equities portfolio.
- Discussion: approach to risk management in determining investments, and socially/environmentally responsible investments. This is not explicit in the policy, but

there is more consideration of social and environmental practices in choosing companies to invest in.

Motion 2018-005

M2018-005	Approve the revised Wildlife Studies Fund investment policy as presented. Jeffery Walker/Patrick Bobinski.	Consensus
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- Deborah Lewis and Deborah Simmons are working together to research options for the SRRB to obtain a custodian for the Wildlife Studies Fund at a reasonable cost. This is best practice for reducing risk and for expanding options for types of investments, for example United States equities.

Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

The story of ʔehdzo Gotʼɪnɛ Gotsʼé Nákedı – the next chapter

Lessons learned, progress made (continued)

Presentation by Janet Winbourne

- Summary of recent Board Member/Special Advisor and staff interview responses to progress made question.
- Overview of strengths and challenges or areas that need improvement.

Regular Meeting (continued)

Overview of Náátsʼɪhchʼoh National Park Reserve Management Plan

Presentation by Laani Uunila

- Planning process
- Vision
- Key strategies
- Zoning and aircraft access
- Placenames and ecology of key areas
- Note that this plan is somewhat different than the standard Parks Canada template, by request of the Management Board.
- Next steps: the Board will provide a formal response by the third week of July.

Review of Colville Caribou Management Plan

Presentation by Lorraine Land

- Overview of Colville Plan
- Discussion of Board feedback
- Agenda for July 7 meeting with Colville

Day 4- July 6

Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

Brainstorm: Where do we want to go?

Presentations by Camilla Rabisca and Walter Bezha

- Story about snowshoe-making, illustrating the problem with approaches that are bureaucratic or not motivated by the cultural and spiritual value of Dene ts'ı́ı́ (Camilla Rabisca).
- Understanding the meaning and aspects of Dene ts'ı́ı́ (Walter Bezha)
- Reconsidering our vision and principles, taking Dene language and concepts as a starting point.
- Working with the results of the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis, brainstorm about future objectives.

Goals, actions, timeline, gaps

- ʔehdzo Got'ı́ı́ and community leadership development
- SRRB staff capacity needs
 - Supporting/building relationships with ʔehdzo Got'ı́ı́
 - Internship program

How do we know if we are doing well?

- Brainstorm indicators of success for a five year strategic plan.
- Note that some of these indicators may need to be changed, since we have not yet completed the workplan with strategic priorities.

Recap of key consensus concepts

Motion 2018-006

M2018-006	Adopt as a basis for its strategic plan, and as guidance moving forward, an approach rooted in Dene ts'ı́ı́ (Dene ways of life) and community conservation planning. Jeffery Walker/George Barnaby	Consensus
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Motion 2018-007

M2018-007	Invite the President of each ʔehdzo Got'ıneḡ (Renewable Resources Council) or their designate to sit as a Special Advisor to the Board. George Barnaby/Patrick Bobinski	Consensus
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Regular Meeting (continued)

Motion 2018-008

M2018-008	Approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting. Jimmy Dillon/George Barnaby.	Consensus
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Meeting adjourned for the day at 5:15 approximately.

Day 5 – July 7

Meeting called to order at 9:30 approximately.

Joint Meeting with Colville – Caribou Management Plan

Opening

Opening prayer by Hyacinth Kochon

- Introductions
- Review of agenda

Bluenose East Management and Arakə Túé (Horton Lake)

Presentations by Chief Wilbert Kochon, Joseph Kochon, Jennifer Duncan, David Codzi, Hyacinth Kochon, Johnny Lorraine Land, Heather Sayine-Crawford

- Note that this is the first joint Colville and SRRB meeting.
- Overview of Colville concerns with Minister Robert C. McLeod's decision with respect to Bluenose East caribou harvesting in the Arakə Túé area, and requested clarification of the process by which the decision was made. The Minister directed Colville to work with the SRRB, and Colville wishes to discuss the issue with the SRRB before approaching the Minister again.
- SRRB's perspective is that there is no Total Allowable Harvest or allocation of Bluenose East caribou, and that there needs to be consistent support for community conservation planning processes.
- ENR notes that the regulations for S/BC/03 (Bluenose East zone) will be changed to reflect the SRRB's/Minister's decisions; Heather will check on the status of this. ENR will consult with the SRRB on wording of the revised regulations.

- The schedules for monitoring populations is published in the *Taking Care of Caribou* plan for Bluenose caribou.
- Colville emphasized that the caribou know their people and their people know the caribou.
- Summary of Board's decisions to base our approach on core objectives outlined in the Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, and flowing from these, our vision and principles.
- Board motions to adopt Dene ts'ı́ı and community conservation planning approach; and to further the principle of collaboration and sharing by formally inviting all ʔehdzo Got'ı́ne Presidents or their delegates to participate on the Board as Special Advisors.

Colville presentation of draft Caribou Management Plan

Presentation by Joseph Kochon

- Concern that Colville is now bound under Total Allowable Harvest provisions arising from the SRRB's 2007 Bluenose West Hearing decisions.
- Clarification that the SRRB is looking forward to approving Colville's Caribou Management Plan as a basis for superseding the Board's 2007 decisions.
- Colville's plan was drafted by technical writer Norman Barichello, based on Dela Got'ı́ne laws and oral traditions, and in discussion with the ʔehdzo Got'ı́ne and Heather Sayine-Crawford; there has been no formal consultation with the community as yet.
- Colville has been working with someone who is experimenting with a drone as an alternative method for monitoring caribou.

Closing prayer and handshake. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm approximately.

Approval of Minutes

Approved by Board decision, August 9, 2017.



Michael Neyelle, Chair

Summary of Motions

Number	Description	Result
M2018-005	Approve the revised Wildlife Studies Fund investment policy as presented. Jeffery Walker/Patrick Bobinski.	Consensus
M2018-006	Adopt as a basis for its strategic plan, and as guidance moving forward, an approach rooted in Dene ts'ı́ı (Dene ways of life) and community conservation planning. Jeffery Walker/George Barnaby	Consensus
M2018-007	Invite the President of each ʔehdzo Got'ı́ne (Renewable Resources Council) or their designate to sit as a Special Advisor to the Board. George Barnaby/Patrick Bobinski	Consensus
M2018-008	Approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 meeting. Jimmy Dillon/George Barnaby.	Consensus