



# Latest News

## Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation Chief and Council approves Caribou Stewardship Plan

1/29/2020

### CONTACTS

Iris Catholique

*Thaidene Nene Manager, Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation*

tdndepartment@gmail.com

**Łutsël K'é, NWT** – It is well known across the north that the Bathurst caribou herd's population has declined by 98 percent and the herd is on the verge of collapse. To support the effective stewardship of caribou, and especially the recovery of the Bathurst caribou herd, the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation's Chief and Council have formally approved a community-led caribou stewardship plan called Yúnethé Xá ?etthën Hádi.

Based on extensive community engagement, the foundation of this plan is Łutsël K'é Dēnesųłné beliefs, values, and stories shared at "Caribou Talk" meetings held in the community. At Caribou Talks, Łutsël K'é elders, hunters, and monitors shared their observations of few calves and smaller groups of Bathurst caribou traveling together. One attendee shared: "In the past, every cow would have a calf. Now, it seems less than a quarter of the cows have calves."

Currently, the plan applies to Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation members within the Łutsël K'é Dene First Nation traditional territory, including the newly established Thaidene Nēné protected areas. The plan outlines hunting policies, protocols, and activities to encourage and support respectful hunting practices based on Łutsël K'é Dēnesųłné values and practices.