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**Cc:** [info](#); [Bruce McRae](#)  
**Subject:** Colville 2020 Public Listening - GNWT-ENR Minister response to SRRB Report and Reasons for Decision  
**Date:** Monday, February 1, 2021 7:30:40 PM  
**Attachments:** [21-01-29 GNWT-ENR Minister Shane Thompson Response to SRRB Colville 2020 PLS Final Report.pdf](#)

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Dear Parties to the Colville 2020 Public Listening Session - On January 29, 2021, the SRRB received the response of the GNWT Minister of Environment and Natural Resources to the Colville 2020 Public Listening Session (attached). The SRRB is mandated to respond within 30 days, unless an extension is granted.

The Minister is obligated to consider the same factors as the SRRB, unless the Minister considers new information or matters of public interest not considered by the SRRB (s. 13.8.25). Parties are reminded the decision-making process proceeds according to the Sahtú Dene and Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement, and should be known to parties. However, the SRRB is sensitive that it has begun a five-part Public Listening Session (PLS) hearing approach, and that approach is ongoing. The SRRB intends the Public Listening Sessions to be iterative and cumulative, building on the work of each PLS.

In light of the nature of the Colville 2020 Public Listening Session and in the participatory rights of parties, the SRRB invites responses from parties to new information, matters of public interest not otherwise put forward or legal positions that were not otherwise subject to consideration within the Colville 2020 Public Listening Session, specifically for decisions or recommendations where the Minister varied or set aside and replaced the SRRB's decision.

With specific attention to the issues outlined above, the SRRB will accept responses to the Minister's January 29, 2021, response and reasons for decision. **Party responses are due by February 15, 2021.**

The SRRB reminds Parties the public record for the 2020 Colville PLS is closed. New arguments, evidence or submissions are not being requested. In making their response, parties may refer to existing submissions or evidence on the hearing record.

This opportunity to respond is to allow parties to fully present their views. The issues at stake here may be significant to the parties, and the Minister's response may involve new information or matters of public interest not otherwise put forward during the Colville 2020 PLS. The SRRB will review and consider if, and how, responses from parties to the Minister's response will be

incorporated into the SRRB's final decisions on those decisions that were varied or replaced in the Minister's initial response.

The SRRB will issue its decision, accompanied by reasons, taking appropriate account of responses.

Máhsí,

Catarina Owen.