



# Association of Mackenzie Mountains Outfitters

May 31, 2007

Mr. John T'Seleie  
Executive Director  
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board  
Fort Good Hope, NT X0E 0H0

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**BY FAX (867) 598-2545**

Dear Mr. T'Seleie,

Further to the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board's (Board) request for stakeholder comments on Draft #1 of the Sahtu Land Use Plan (SLUP), I am writing on behalf of the Association of Mackenzie Mountains Outfitters (AMMO) to provide our comments on this early draft. We understand that the SLUP is not completed yet and that the Board plans on taking the plan through a second and third drafting stage, including a formalized consultation process as required by the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act. As stakeholders, we are very interested in contributing to this process. Accordingly, we ask that AMMO be included on the distribution list and provided with information on opportunities to provide input into and comment on subsequent drafts of the SLUP, including the formal consultation process.

As a general comment, AMMO strongly supports the following statement in Appendix 6.12 Economic Development and Tourism:

The tourism industry would like to see the wilderness aspect of the Sahtu maintained. The remoteness and perceived pristine nature of the environment is a major factor in guiding and outfitting activities. This includes the need for buffer zones around cabins and campsites, rotating harvest as part of a conservation strategy, protecting wildlife during birthing seasons and securing adequate harvest levels to maintain and grow the industry.

AMMO also supports the inclusion of "commercial hunting, fishing and ecotourism operations as permitted by appropriate regulatory authorities" in the list of acceptable land uses in Conservation Zones.<sup>1</sup> The inclusion as an acceptable land use is consistent with the overall objectives for Conservation Zones. This land use is also consistent with the objectives of Special Management Zones; however, the intention of the SLUP as to the applicability of

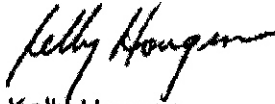
<sup>1</sup> Sahtu Land Use Plan, Draft #1, February 16, 2007, 1.3.3.1 A.6, at page 14.

the prohibited activities in Special Management Zones to commercial hunting, fishing and ecotourism operation is not clear. Accordingly, we recommend that the SLUP state that commercial hunting, fishing and ecotourism operators are not "Developers" for purposes of the Special Management Zones (although, consistent with Conservation Zones, remain subject to the appropriate regulatory authorities).

With regard to the zoning applied to individual areas, AMMO members have not yet had an opportunity to review each individual zoned area. Accordingly, we look forward to an opportunity to provide further comments throughout the drafting process.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment at this early stage of drafting. Please contact me at 867-633-4934 or at the address on this letterhead if you wish to discuss these comments further. We will look forward to working with you throughout this process.

Best Regards,



Kelly Hougen  
President