



# Sahtu Land Use Planning Board

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January 20, 2011

**To:** Rocky Norwegian, President - Tulita District Land Corporation  
Cece Hodgson-McCauley, President – Norman Wells Land Corporation  
Gordon Yakeleya, President – Tulita Land Corporation  
Eddie McPherson Jr., President – Fort Norman Metis Nation Local 60 Land Corporation  
Chief Frank Andrew – Tulita Dene Band  
Danny Yakeleya, Mayor – Hamlet of Tulita  
Doug Yallee, Chair - Tulita Yamoria Community Secretariat  
Norman Hodgson, President – Norman Wells Renewable Resources Council  
David Menacho, President – Tulita Renewable Resources Council  
Richard Hardy, Chief Negotiator

## **Re: Follow-up Questions from January 6-7, 2011 Consultation**

Dear Sirs and Madam,

In follow-up to the consultation meeting that the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (SLUPB) held in Tulita on January 6-7, 2011 the Board would like to confirm the outcomes of that meeting and clarify the final decisions needed on the establishment of Naat'ihch'oh and Shuhtagot'ine Nene to move the Plan forward. These are outlined below. **We are asking for a written response on these questions by February 25<sup>th</sup> 2011.** A separate letter and set of questions is being sent to the Tulita District Land Corporation to follow-up on their requested zone changes for settlement lands.

We understand that Richard Hardy has arranged follow-up meetings with the District and the various organizations from both Tulita and Norman Wells between January 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to seek resolution to these questions. He has been supplied with a series of maps to assist you in considering the various options for zoning in the Mackenzie Mountains.

### **Naats'ihch'oh**

Meeting participants agreed to the following approach: Because the final boundaries have not yet been agreed to and the timeline for that decision is unclear, the SLUPB will use the maximum possible boundary, that is the current land withdrawal area plus the O'Grady Lake extension, as the revised boundary for the PCI, and apply a default designation of Special Management Zone to any lands omitted from the final boundary. This will allow the Plan to be completed regardless of the timeline for completion of the Park Reserve and will avoid the need for an immediate Plan amendment once the park is established.



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Richard Hardy stated at the January 6-7<sup>th</sup> meeting that if the Minister for Parks Canada does not sign the Impact and Benefits Agreement by the end of February, the District may still walk away from the Park. We will need confirmation by February 25<sup>th</sup> that the IBP has been signed, or if it hasn't, direction on how the SLUPB should zone these lands in the Plan. Will the communities maintain their support for establishment of Naats'ihch'oh (i.e. maintain the area as a PCI until it's completed) or should this area change to a Conservation Zone or some other zone type if this deadline is not met?

### **Shuhtagot'ine Nene**

For Shuhtagot'ine Nene, meeting participants indicated a willingness to continue work with the Canadian Wildlife Service on the establishment of a National Wildlife Area, providing that the shape of that area changes to omit the high mineral potential areas while still capturing important areas for ecological and cultural values. The next SGN Working Group Meeting has already been scheduled for February 23-24<sup>th</sup> at which time a new boundary will be mapped out. The Canadian Wildlife Service and the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society have both committed to spending additional time with community members prior to that to ensure a successful outcome. I will attend the February 23-24<sup>th</sup> Working Group Meeting to respond to any questions related to the land use plan and work with participants to get the information we need. I can also come in early to work with community members on preliminary mapping options if that would be helpful. For clarity, we need the following decisions to move forward:

1. A maximum boundary in which the communities expect to have a final National Wildlife Area established. Similar to the proposed solution for Naats'ihch'oh, the Board can specify that any areas omitted from the final boundary will automatically be designated as Special Management, as per the TDLC's previous direction.
2. Direction on how to zone all of the areas that are part of the current Shuhtagot'ine Nene boundary that are not included in the revised boundary to be mapped on February 23-24<sup>th</sup>. The community may want to explore a variety of options, such as having a core area established as a National Wildlife Area, with small peripheral areas protected as Conservation Zones, and remaining areas in a combination of Special Management or General Use zones to encourage mineral exploration and development. We need to know exactly how the communities want all areas zoned.
3. Written confirmation from the relevant community organizations following this meeting supporting the outcome. Should anything change with these plans as a result of the earlier community meetings scheduled for January 20-25<sup>th</sup> with Rick Hardy, please notify me immediately.

### **Zoning of Tulita Block Land Transfer**

The NWLC requested that the SLUPB zone all land within the Norman Wells Block Land Transfer that is outside the municipal boundary as General Use. They stated that it was important for self-government. Is this also required for Tulita?



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Should you have any questions or need assistance from us in any way in working through these questions, please contact me at (403) 984-3916 or [Heidi.wiebe@shaw.ca](mailto:Heidi.wiebe@shaw.ca). We look forward to receiving your comments by February 25<sup>th</sup> and working with you to complete the Sahtu Land Use Plan.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heidi Wiebe".

Heidi Wiebe  
Plan Development Lead  
Sahtu Land Use Planning Board