



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

Monday, September 24, 2018		
Hamlet Council Chamber, Fort McPherson		
Time	Action	Who
6:00 PM	Pre-meeting session to discuss meeting procedures and expectations	Board members only

DAY 1 Tuesday, September 25, 2018			
Hamlet Council Chamber, Fort McPherson			
Item	Action	Led by	Expected outcomes
8:30 AM Arrival	Coffee and tea provided		
Motion to designate Jozef Carnogursky as the meeting Chair		Motion	
Moved by: Ron	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-46	
All in favour	Motion carried		
1. 9:00 AM Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to order • Round table • Declaration of conflict of interest 	Jozef Carnogursky, GRRB	Information
<p>Call to Order: 9:05am (Jozef) Introductions (Jozef and the Board members)</p> <p>Attendees (morning session): Jozef Carnogursky, GRRB Chair Ron Allen, GRRB Member Sam Bullock, GRRB Member Doug Doan, GRRB Member Margaret Begg, GRRB Member Charlie Snowshoe, GRRB Member (arrived 9:15AM) Rayna Vittrekwa, Youth Council John Norbert, Gwichya Gwich'in RRC Fanny Greenland, Ehdiitat RRC Sterling Firth, Nihtat RRC James Edwards, Ehdiitat RRC Amy Amos, GRRB Executive Director (telephone) Édouard Bélanger, GRRB Staff Janet Boxwell, GRRB Staff Kaytlin Cooper, GRRB Staff Cheryl Greenland, GRRB Staff Sarah Lord, GRRB Staff Jordan Norman-Goose, GRRB Staff Neil Harris, Public</p> <p>Amy gives housekeeping info. Declare conflict of interest as it arises.</p>			



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

2. 9:15 AM Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and approval of agenda 	Jozef Carnogursky, GRRB	Motion
Motion to approve the September 2018 Board meeting agenda		Motion	
Moved by: Doug	Seconded by: Margaret	GRRB 18-47	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
3. a) 9:20 AM Minutes & Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and approval of minutes: February 2018 face-to-face, March 2018/June 2018/July 2018 teleconference 	Jozef Carnogursky, GRRB	Motion
Motion to approve the February 2018 face-to-face meeting minutes		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-48	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to approve the March 2018 teleconference minutes		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-49	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to approve the June 2018 teleconference minutes		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-50	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to approve the July 2018 teleconference minutes		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-51	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
3. b) 9:20 AM Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of outstanding action items 	Amy Amos, GRRB	Information
<p>Progress update on outstanding action items from previous meetings. Highlights include:</p> <p>2015-07 and 2015-08 to be marked as “deferred, pending interest from partners” given the lack of staff time available to do it and the other work that needs to get done on muskox, moose, Bluenose West & Cape Bathurst caribou herds. Board approved the management actions table and some work is still happening, but hold off on finalizing the plan until all partners (including RRCs) are ready to do that.</p> <p>2016-43 is for non-Indigenous resident hunters. Board has not discussed locations yet. Resident hunters had questions like restrictions on locations where they can hunt moose. Flag for discussion on October teleconference. ENR is looking at territory-wide management plan. Perhaps we can align this with answering that question.</p> <p>2016-46 Grizzly bear management plan: Amy suggests Ed seek support from external researchers to get understanding of grizzly bear density prior to moving forward on management plan.</p> <p>2017-08 to 2018-10 are all internal items.</p> <p>2018-11 RRWG Steering Committee meeting happened in June.</p>			



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

2018-12 Keep the RRCs informed of the IFMP review process. Sarah attended RRC meetings in Oct-Dec, and then sent a letter in March 2018 with summary of draft changes and what it means for communities. Final draft expected to be complete in September.

2018-17 ENR Legislative Review – recently received a letter from ENR finally inviting GRRB to the Technical Working Group table. They flew up WRRB and SRRB reps and ENR staff went through the *Forest Act* and the *Protected Areas Act*. Quite a bit of progress.

2018-21 Guidelines for Treasury Fund – Finance Committee to review the guidelines for use

2018-30 Board members not optimistic about DFO action. Topic to be revisited in camera after DFO update.

9:55am Delayed the break, moved straight to reports

4. 9:55 AM Review reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for Q&A on written reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chair report (regrets) b. Member reports (presented) c. Executive Director report (call in) d. Agency reports (highlights only) 	Eugene Pascal, GRRB Board members Amy Amos, GRRB	Information
---------------------------	---	--	-------------

See the meeting binder for individual reports.

a. Chair report: Eugene sends his regrets. Board recognises his input into the Board over the last five years. Once the Government announces it, the Board will publicly announce the new Chair.

c. E.D. report – Amy (phone): Youth were invited from the school, to be supported by YWEP funds, but Principal says they are doing writing assessments today and tomorrow. We have some older youth from the community who will come sit at the table with the Board, with Ed’s help.

d. Agency Reports (highlights only)

i. Gerald Fillatre (DFO Enforcement)

Officers in Inuvik for 4 major patrols. 1 in April, 2 in June, 1 in August. April patrol sent 2 officers for a week, involved with HTA meeting, DFO staff met with FJMC and GRRB staff. Did joint patrol with RCMP and ENR while there along ITH. In June, sent staff back and patrolled MPA using Transport Canada surveillance aircraft. 14 days vessel patrols out in Hendrickson Island; couldn’t make it to Shingle Point due to the weather. Met with ENR officers and patrolled ITH and did road patrol to Fort McPherson. This is the second year they have put staff on Coast Guard ship Sir Wilfred Laurier – biggest patrol out of Inuvik was the Beaufort Sea with 2 fishery officers from Herschel Island to Kugluktuk, NU and using the helicopter on the ship they were able to get into MPAs and get into camps along the way. Also did highway patrol Inuvik to Tsiigetichic, and Mackenzie River & Airport Lake, as well as ITH. During all of these surveillance flights and patrols, no regulatory infraction charges laid against Gwich’in participants. So far this year, spent 72 person-days in Inuvik doing enforcement work, which is some of the highest in recent years. Last year spent 70 officer days, before that the



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

number was significantly less – Beaufort Sea patrol on Sir Wilfred Laurier has increased numbers significantly. Sending staff back this week to do flights over Mackenzie River to look for belugas, and do flights over MPAs. Looking to send staff in winter to patrol jigging sites in the river, doing snowmobile patrols to look at wastage and doing sport fishing patrols at the same time.

- ii. **Michael (CWS Species at Risk, terrestrial):** Reviewed the spreadsheet he provided of species they're currently working on. Bats, caribou, pika, various birds; refer to spreadsheet for status update. Upcoming: Barren-ground caribou consultations are completed in your region but ongoing in Nunavut, so timeline has been pushed to allow more face-to-face consultation with communities. Transverse Lady Beetle consultations are complete, as are Harris's Sparrow, but neither has been posted or listed.
- iii. **Larry Dow (DFO):** DFO Canada Member appointment expiring in the new year. Trying to run a process now so there's no lag in filling the position. New transparent process, advertised, needs approval from the Privy Council office to post. One for the Sahtu RRB for two appointments also. A second issue is looking at possible sport-fishing restrictions in the ISR for April 1 – not finalized yet. Also putting in variation order for conservation measures on the ITH. Sport-fishing in Gwich'in and ISR are more involved in consultations than other areas. Having more discussion is overdue.

10:40 AM Break	Snacks provided		
11:00 AM Review reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity for Q&A on written reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> e. Staff reports (Q & A only) f. Other reports (Q & A only) g. Letters received (info only) 	Eugene Pascal, GRRB	Information

Raina Vittrekwa is at the table with the Board as a Youth Representative.

- iv. **Martha Brannigan (ENR):** [See meeting binder for presentation]
 Discussion around PCMA re: 10-02. Minister of Yukon held summit in January and then another in Inuvik. Parties put together a statement on their position on protecting the caribou. Decision to hire a contractor to put together a scientific paper, which will be publicly available so anyone can use it to inform their critique of environmental impact. Binder also includes grizzly bear harvest reporting and tag use. Not sure if DNA results are all back yet, word is that number of bears in the mountains has increased since outfitters closed back in the 80s. People are seeing more of them on the landscape so the feeling is bears are increasing. Total tag number has never been reached since it was put in place so if the estimate were correct in the first place, they're increasing and harvest is sustainable. Wolf sample collection is still ongoing. If you get wolves you can get a sampling kit from your ENR office. Wolves are killing the dogs in our communities, migrating quite a bit and coming too close to town. Marsha will make sure Shawn knows.

5. Wildlife decisions	a) Request for live capturing of musk ox	Édouard Bélanger, GRRB	Decision
-----------------------	--	------------------------	----------



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

Last April, Mr. Rickard from Saskatchewan asked for permission to live-trap muskox in the GSA to start a farm to harvest qiviut from the muskox. He asked for 5 to 10 juvenile muskox, 5 – 7 females and 2 – 3 males captured by helicopter and using immobilizing drugs. He would transport them in kennels to his farm. He's not sure on location of his farm – it might be Ontario, PEI, or Nova Scotia. Ed advised that there are not a lot of muskox around here, and there are other requests from the communities to use those muskox. Those requests come first.

[Discussion around live-capture and transporting muskox, benefits (or lack thereof) to muskox and to the GRRB]

Survey last winter said numbers were 63 in the GSA in the northern Richardsons, which does not include the ones by Tsiigehtchic. 50 of them in the ISR on the North Slope. More on the Yukon side on the coast. ~110 around Aklavik in between ISR & GSA.

Charlie: Us people are going to have to learn to go after the muskox. I passed through Old Crow recently and people were saying the caribou are going back to Alaska. So we're going to have to start relying on muskox to get fresh meat. We've never had muskox in our country, and I can go a long way back saying that. In Alaska they took a bunch of them and they overpopulated, so they picked them in a net and dropped them with a helicopter here and there. And it didn't take them long to populate. We were against them coming in to our country. An elderly woman, she used to go along the Dempster highway, she said they saw 21 in a bunch, and another place some more. I got on the radio and told them to pick them up and take them back to Alaska – they harm the caribou. Wherever the muskox go the caribou don't go there. But today I understand we have a lot of muskox here, and they chase the caribou back into Alaska, and that's our biggest problem right now. Soon we're going to have to rely on muskox for fresh meat, along with moose.

Discussion: in the response, give no encouragement whatsoever. There is nothing in this for us in terms of management of muskox, there's no benefit. Don't entertain this at all, regardless of any business plan.

Motion to deny the request of Mr. Riguer to the Board to live-trap muskox to start a farm

Motion

Moved by: Margaret

Seconded by: Sam

GRRB 18-52

All in favour

Motion Carried

6. Research results

a) Summer survey results for Bluenose West and Cape Bathurst

Tracy Davison, ENR

Information

Tracy Davison gave a presentation on the results of the population estimates for caribou this past summer [see meeting binder].

Q&A: What does the rubbing (on caribou leg and nose skin) indicate? Probably the ice layer. There was rain in January that created an ice layer in the snow.

What's the rationale behind Tuk asking for that survey in the fall? They want to see more mixed groups of bulls and cows than post-calving in summer when there's some mixing but still bull groups and cow groups separate.

[Discussion about number of collared animals and population estimates]



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

12:01 PM Lunch	Provided		
1:00 PM Research results (cont'd)	b) Summer whitefish camp interim results and upcoming plans	Rachel Hovel, Simon Fraser University (phone)	Information

Rachel Hovel presented via telephone [see meeting binder for presentation].

[Discussion on additional topics Board would like Rachel and Emma to pursue]

Q&A In 2017, up to 400 fish sampled. Did you find any new parasites or diseases? Any health concerns? We found mostly quite good fish health. No external parasites, observed. As part of data collection, we asked Alice & Ernest and Abe to record if they saw any parasites in the flesh as they cut them. We showed the harvesters a pamphlet of all the internal parasites that can be in NWT, and they didn't report seeing any of them. As water temperature changes fish can become more vulnerable to parasites and other diseases, which is a concern with climate change. We didn't see anything to be concerned with this past year, but it's something to keep watching.

[Discussion about past work in 1970s with George Low. Archived whitefish otolith samples have been shared with the project and are being analyzed. There might be differences in fish growth rates between then and today. Collecting baseline data to look at the impacts of erosion, the impacts of dams, but we can also look back and use those historical samples to compare the effects of changes to date. [Rachel explained the methodology of using strontium to track fish movement].

Did you sample any loche? Not this year but Amy Amos has in the past. One thing we are thinking about is perhaps looking at coney, which are similarly large and move around the delta.

Request: to find out the person who's doing research on the river this summer.

7. Forest Legislation	Draft NWT <i>Forest Management Act</i> and protected areas legislation	Tom Lacusta, ENR	Information
-----------------------	--	------------------	-------------

Tom reviewed his presentation [see meeting binder].

He confirmed that ENR's commitment to engage extends beyond the legislation and into the regulation development. ENR will put their thoughts in front of IGOs and RRBs and others, and get their feedback, and then draft it.

Q&A In terms of local project to use willows, it's been 8 years or so. At this point in time would you consider this project here in this community a model of success? What this community has and where it started going to in 2010 was unique. The idea of building a district heating system that would heat the downtown buildings with local wood and local labour, and save money on heating oil would have brought both employment and money savings to the community. Willows themselves are incredibly fast-growing, especially after they've been harvested once, they grow fast when they're young. There have been several different partnerships that have caused some delays.



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

[Discussion re: tree pest outbreaks – mountain pine beetle, spruce budworm – and wood import permits]

The new Act will make ENR better managers in terms of dealing with issues like forest management and ensuring they understand outbreak cycles before they occur, can talk with RRCs and communities about what they think is going to happen, and ensure the forest is renewed afterwards. Every 5 years ENR are going to do a report on forest health for the government and the public.

[Discussion about log homes, community decisions and the forest industry]

2:26 PM Break			
8. 2:38 PM Harvest reporting	a) Presentation on harvest survey & reporting challenges	Janet Boxwell, GRRB	Direction

Janet presented on background, results, challenges & opportunities in the Harvest Study so far [see presentation in meeting binder].

New ideas: Janet tried a few communication products 'Report Your Harvest' (stickers, magnets, including Gwich'in language), a brochure explaining how the data gets used and results so far. Trying again with in-person interviews starting in November. Also doing mail-out surveys including a brochure. Suggestions?
Audience: The door-to-door approach is the best way to go. Somebody talking to you, if they're willing to, that's good.

Q&A Are we asking the right questions? Yes. But getting feedback, that's harder. The personal approach is the best way – don't mail.

[Discussion about choosing the right interviewer – elder vs. younger]

Are we doing it at the right time? We're doing it twice a year, is that right? Is the formatting right, is it multiple choice form that doesn't have the right answer listed? Need to hire people who are outspoken, not just people to bring that paper into your house and have you sign it. Get the person to talk with you. There's lots of new harvesters, especially here in McPherson, lots of younger people going out and hunting caribou, moose, fishing, picking berries, trapping. Target these young people and once you start talking with them they open up to you. You can't rely on the elders all the time.

We are focused on things like caribou, but should we be doing a broader survey? How do we decide what's important? A wider approach would be good – for each season.

What are you harvesting at this time? August/September/October is mostly fishing. December/January it's prime fur. March/April it's muskrats.

Should we be using technology ("iPod generation") to engage people? It's like hunting; if your sighting is off you're going to keep missing that target. Elders are a valued source but perhaps our target should be shifting towards the younger folks who are going out and harvesting. The belief system of respect for tradition is another topic, but putting the pieces of the puzzle together there's several things that need to come together. [Janet described Traditional Practices joint project with Gwich'in Culture & Heritage



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

working with Sharon Snowshoe doing video interviews with elders on traditional practices like harvesting. The objective is to create materials that can be presented through social media, targeting youth]. Maybe there is some way of bringing those together.

Board needs to use the feedback and data in a timely manner, be diligent so it gets back to the communities.

10. Review GRRB Priorities	• Discussion of GRRB priorities	GRRB	Information
----------------------------	---------------------------------	------	-------------

Janet Boxwell explained collection of research and management interests of the communities (available on our website), prioritization by Board and direction from communities. Because not all interests on this list can feasibly be accomplished by the GRRB alone, one purpose of the list is to distribute the list to outside researchers and other agencies. Janet reviewed new items added to the list in the past year.

[Discussion about drinking water safety on the land]

Action 18-36: Sarah to follow up with ENR water division re: water drinking safety on the land and report back to RRCs.

9. RRC & Public Session	Open discussion between the RRCs and Board members	Jozef Carnogursky, GRRB	Advice received
-------------------------	--	-------------------------	-----------------

Jozef explained the purpose of this session, to give the RRCs and the public a chance to give advice and talk directly to the Board. He stressed the importance of the relationship between the Board and the RRCs.

On behalf of James Andre: Bathing Lake (Tsiigehtchic). He remembers being told by Chief Hyacinth that if you put rusty equipment in that lake it would come out clean the next day. Yet there's still fish and muskrats in that lake. How can that be? Another one is that there's lots of wolves around Tsiigehtchic and just a couple of nights ago somebody's dogs were killed. Wolves on both sides of Arctic Red, and George Niditchie Sr's camp. Also concerned about seeing fewer snipes. Is there interest in doing a shorebird survey?

John Norbert: How come there's no RRC Presidents here, like before? Or Vice Presidents? [POLITICAL. Jozef deflects to DGO and communities]

Sterling: Harvest reporting – we'll need to take a broader approach to target young people, and make sure people are checking on them. You've got to have the right person with a good personality, outgoing and approachable, to get these questions answered.

[Further discussion about water discoloration and quality out on the land]

4:00PM Break			
--------------	--	--	--



Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB)

AGENDA

11. 4:13PM Administrative	a) Safety update/reporting of incidents	Sarah Lord, GRRB	Information
	b) Decision on upcoming meeting attendance	Board members	Decision
	c) Decision on February 2019 meeting date (needs to be before Feb 19)	Board members	Decision
a) Safety update: Board will discuss in camera			
b) Decision on upcoming meeting attendance: Board will deal with this in-camera tomorrow			
Motion to hold the next GRRB face-to-face meeting on February 5-7, 2019		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Sam	GRRB 18-53	
All in favour.	Motion Carried.		
Motion to adjourn the public portion of the September 2018 meeting		Motion	
Moved by: Doug	Seconded by: Ron	GRRB 18-54	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to go in camera at 6:46PM		Motion	
Moved by: Charlie	Seconded by: Ron	GRRB 18-55	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to come out of camera at 7:32PM		Motion	
Moved by: Charlie	Seconded by: Ron	GRRB 18-56	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to appoint Jozef Carnogursky as Interim Chairperson of the GRRB, effective November 7, 2018		Motion	
Moved by: Charlie	Seconded by: Doug	GRRB 18-57	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Motion to adjourn the September 2018 fall meeting at 7:35PM		Motion	
Moved by: Margaret	Seconded by: Ron	GRRB 18-58	
All in favour	Motion Carried		
Thank you to everyone who attended. The meeting was adjourned one day early so staff and members traveled home earlier.			
Action 18-37: Amy to write a letter to the Regional Director General of DFO encouraging his involvement in the annual GRRB-DFO meeting in Winnipeg.			
Action 18-38: Staff to ensure that logistics and administrative tasks were carried out resulting from adjourning the meeting early (i.e. travel/hotel changes, venue booking changes, etc)			

These minutes were approved at the February 2019 GRRB meeting (motion #GRRB19-03).