



HTC NEWS

I would like to welcome three new RPs: Sharon Green, the Resource Person for Paulatuk Hunters and Trappers Committee; Florence Elanik, RP for Sachs Harbour Hunters and Trappers Committee; and Faith Gordon for the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee. The current RPs for Tuktoyaktuk HTC is Eleanor Ross, Inuvik is Shelly (Hendrick) Gordon, and Holman is Bessie Inuktalik.

I would like to say congratulations to Shelly Hendrick, now Shelly Gordon, who recently got married April 8, 2000. I wish you both a happy and enjoyable new life together as one.

Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program schedule is as follows:

- 1) **February 1 - March 15** open for applications;
- 2) **March 16 - March 31** application review period by Community IHAP Committee;
- 3) **April 1 - April 15** applicants receive notice & the appeal period opens;
- 4) **April 16 - May 15** approved applicants make down payment/credit arrangements and also appeals will be heard by the IHAP Review Committee;
- 5) cheques will be issued in **June**.

Should you need more information, please call the:

**IHAP Manager,
Esther Price,
at 867-777-7024.**

- Esther Price
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PREMIER ISSUE FROM THE JOINT...

Well, here it is! The first issue of the Joint Secretariat newsletter *JS BULLETIN* - a mere 13 years after the Joint Secretariat was set up, but "*better late than never*" as the saying goes.

This issue is on the "*lighter*" side, but in future issues we plan to cover "*heavier*" topics such as roles and responsibilities, rights, etc.

So please let us know what you think- we are looking for feedback, and don't forget that the newsletter can be used to highlight HTC matters if that's what people would like.

We are planning two issues of *JS BULLETIN* per year.

- Norm Snow
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Welcome to the first issue of JS Bulletin—a mere 13 years in the making.



Billy Day, currently serves as a member on the FJMC and EISC and is an alternate on the Inuvialuit Game Council.

Profile of an IFA Campaigner

Billy Day was born and raised in the Mackenzie Delta in the 1920's. He lived in Aklavik until the 1950's when he moved his family across the delta to the newly constructed town of Inuvik (known at the time as East Three) to work for the Government of Canada - Social Services. After 14 years on-the-job, Billy moved his family back to the bush. There, he and his family lived a life that he had become accustomed to as a young child — a life that he now wanted to share with his growing family. They enjoyed hunting, fishing, trapping, and whaling along the traditional and cultural lines his ancestors passed on from generation to generation. After some time in the bush, Billy returned to Inuvik to become involved with the Committee for Original People's Entitlement (COPE) to negotiate the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA).

Billy was the last President of COPE and a signatory to the IFA. Since then, Billy has been a member of the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and the local Hunters and Trappers Committee. He currently serves as a member on the Fisheries Joint Management & Environmental Impact Screening Committees and is an alternate member on Inuvialuit Game Council. Billy has also played a key role in the revival of a variety of cultural activities including drum dancing and traditional northern games.

Today, Billy Day returns periodically to the land that has provided for him and his family and he remains a steadfast campaigner of Inuvialuit rights provided under the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.



Inuvialuit Game Council

Yukon's North Slope

In January, at the Long Term Research Plan Implementation Workshop in Old Crow, a Game Council member, along with representatives from the Aklavik HTC spoke with scientists and WMAC (NS) on the research that the community of Aklavik would like to see for the Yukon North Slope. Current ongoing projects and community research priorities were discussed.

Celebrating An International Polar Bear Agreement

During the past few months IGC representatives attended several polar bear meetings to discuss how many bears there are, what studies



Frank Pokiak, Duane Smith and Charlie Brower sign Polar Bear Agreement.

should be done, and how to manage the bears that are shared between regions. In March scientists and Inupiat from Alaska came to Inuvik to meet with Inuvialuit Game Council representatives and Canadian researchers. The Inuvialuit - Inupiat Polar Bear Joint Commission and Technical Committee meets each year to discuss issues on the shared polar bear population. The Inuvialuit - Inupiat Management Agreement for Polar Bears in the Southern Beaufort Sea was originally signed in 1988. This international agreement sets out sharing of information on polar bear numbers, health and harvesting. After the meeting this year, the Inuvialuit and the Inupiat re-signed this important agreement at a ceremony at Ingamo Hall. There was a feast and drum dance to celebrate the continued cooperation in managing this species for future generations.

IHAP

At their March meeting the Game Council discussed this year's Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program (IHAP). The HTCs are busy collecting and reviewing applications from people in need who would like financial assistance to buy new equipment to help them go out on the land harvesting. During the last selection this program helped over 170 harvesters throughout the ISR.

Legislation

Some of the other issues that the Game Council is working on include examining the draft Herschel Island Management Plan and the draft Ivvavik Park Management Plan. These plans will attempt to address concerns such as protecting graves at Herschel Island, reducing airplane traffic over harvesters at Shingle Point and reducing the size of the Sheep Creek Ranger Station. The IGC is also involved in the revision of several pieces of government legislation including the GNWT Wildlife Act and regulations, the National Parks Act regulations and the Yukon Wildlife Act regulations to make sure that the legislation is changed to reflect Inuvialuit harvesting rights as set out in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement.

Problem Bears

With the longer days of spring encouraging people to head out on the land to their camps, it seemed appropriate that IGC and HTC representatives discussed problem bears, among other topics, at RWED's recent Grizzly Bear Workshop in Inuvik. Information on ways to deal with problem bears and how to bear-proof your camp while you're away from it is available from RWED.

- **Katherine Thiesenhausen**

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Environmental Impact Screening Committee

The EISC held meetings in November and December 1999, and January and March 2000. During the November meeting, the EISC decided that Kuñnek Resource Development Corporation's proposed project to revitalize the reindeer industry in the Beaufort Delta could have a significant negative impact on wildlife or Inuvialuit wildlife harvesting. The EISC referred it to the EIRB for public review. [See below]

During the December meeting, the EISC received presentations by Explor Data and Petro-Canada related to their proposed winter seismic programs in the Mackenzie Delta. Petro-Canada's seismic program was screened and determined to have no significant negative environmental effects. Similarly, Explor-Data's winter seismic program was cleared for permitting at the January meeting.

In March, the EISC approved of Defence Construction Canada's clean-up plans for the Shingle Point (BAR-2) DEW Line Site in Yukon, the Geological Survey of Canada's aeromagnetic survey of the Mackenzie Corridor, and the University of Manitoba's plans to measure tundra productivity and vegetation structure using satellite imagery. At the same meeting, the EISC decided to defer consideration of Darnley Bay Resources' proposed diamond drilling program to provide the company with time to furnish additional information and interested groups to comment on the proposal.

Parks Canada submitted several project descriptions this winter that were determined to have no significant negative environmental effects. Parks Canada proposes to place a permanent fuel cache and conduct a peregrine falcon survey in Tukut Nogait National Park. It will carry out a



EISC. Front (l-r) Marsha Branigan, Linda Graf (secretary), Bruce McLean; Back (l-r) Billy Day, Tom Beck (chair), Fred Wolki, Alex Kaglik. Missing, Tom Butters

similar peregrine falcon survey in Aulavik National Park, in addition to a fisheries inventory.

- **Linda Graf**

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Environmental Impact Review Board

In December, the EIRB signed an agreement with the Minister of Environment that outlines the way in which the IFA environmental review process may substitute for the federal review process under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. As a result of the Agreement, relevant developments in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region may be subject to only one, instead of two review processes. At the same time, the agreement ensures that both the EIRB and the Minister of Environment fulfill their obligations under their respective legislation.

The EIRB is involved at present with the public review of a proposal by Kuñnek Resource Development Corporation to revitalize the

reindeer herd in the Western Arctic. Eighteen individuals and groups have become Registered Participants of the review, which enables them to receive and comment upon relevant documents. The company submitted a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in late February. The EIS will outline the way in which the company proposes to carry out its project. Once the EIS is approved by the EIRB, the Board will appoint a Review Panel to hear concerns about the project and to render a decision. A final decision will be made following a public hearing.

- **Linda Graf**

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EIRB carries out detailed environmental impact assessment and public review of development projects referred to it by the EISC.

Fisheries Joint Management Committee



Historic Beluga Whale Agreement Signed

After 5 years in the making, an international beluga whale agreement was formally signed in Inuvik on March 3, 2000 between the Inuvialuit of the Northwest Territories and the Inupiat of Alaska. The Inuvialuit-Inupiat Beaufort Sea Beluga Whale Agreement was endorsed by representatives from Joint Secretariat-Inuvialuit Renewable Resources Committees and Inupiat of North Slope Borough. In the spirit of the Beaufort Sea Polar Bear Management Agreement in place before it, the new beluga agreement is a "users agreement", developed by the people who depend on this Beaufort Sea natural resource. The intention of this agreement is to keep the beluga resource shared by Inuvialuit and Inupiat peoples strong for generations to come through international cooperation in the form of open communication, sharing of information and collaboration on future research.



Charlie Brower, Duane Smith, Andy Carpenter, Billy Day, and Fenton Rexford at beluga agreement signing ceremony.

This coming year, FJMC is allocating over \$400,000 towards 21 research projects to help us better understand things like: Beaufort Sea beluga disease; status and movements of ringed seal; char population monitoring in North Slope, Hornaday River, Prince Albert Sound, and Fish Lake System; Mackenzie River whitefish and coney biology. In addition to these projects, FJMC will continue to fund on-going monitoring projects like our successful Beluga Monitor Program and the Inuvialuit Harvest Study.

New FJMC website

We hope to have FJMC's new website (www.fjmc.ca) on-line by late Spring. This site will be developed over time to become a one-stop source of information on FJMC activities and projects for benefit of a variety of net surfing audiences ranging from scientists to

school children. See you later on the World Wide Web.

Summer Student Mentoring Program

This will be the fourth year of our Summer Student Mentoring Program. The Program is offered by FJMC in cooperation with Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The program is designed to encourage Inuvialuit students to be the ISR's future scientists and resource managers. Students get a realistic introduction to the world of fisheries science by working with FJMC, DFO, and HTC staff on projects out on the land and around the office during the summer months.

Last year, 3 students participated including returning seasoned program veterans Northern Beattie and Christine Inglangasuk from Inuvik and a new student from Aklavik. Depending on our success in coming months to find supplementary funding for our Summer 2000 program, we hope to be able to accommodate more students from more communities around the ISR in our program this year. In past years, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation and GNWT Department of Education, Culture and Employment have helped us out by providing some additional funding towards the program. Stay tuned for an FJMC summer student recruiting drive in a high school or HTC office near you this spring.

- Ed McLean
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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

Species Management Plans

Species management plans represent community-driven strategies to ensure the long-term conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitat in the ISR. The Banks Island Multi-Species Management Plan is nearing completion, and will be released this spring. The Bluenose Management Plan will be ready for release after input is received through one more community tour. Recent studies by RWED-Inuvik have determined that the so-called Bluenose herd is actually comprised of three distinct herds. Victoria Island Multi-Species Management Plan should be ready for public release this spring.

Bluenose Caribou Herds Management Cooperation Agreement

After working cooperatively for the past two years, the WMAC(NWT), Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board, and the Sahtu Renewable Resource Board will be signing off on an

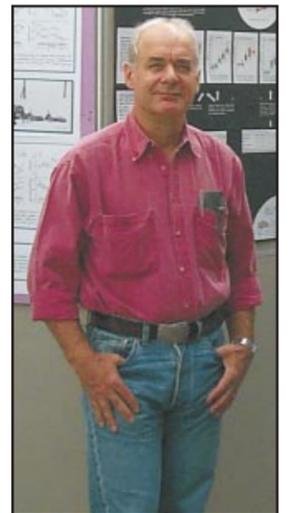
agreement that outlines what is necessary to ensure that the Bluenose Caribou Herds are properly managed for sustainable use and long-term conservation. The agreement establishes the Bluenose Caribou Herds Co-management Advisory Committee, which is made up of the Chairpersons from the three co-management boards listed above, as well as the Chair of the Tukut Nogait National Park Management Board.

Community Conservation Plans

The long-awaited revised and updated Community Conservation Plans will be ready for public release in late spring or early summer. All six Community Conservation Plans have been reviewed by the communities, government agencies and co-management bodies. The plans represent an important community document that identify what the communities recognize as critical harvesting areas and key wildlife habitat. The new plans will be available to the public in a binder format, on cd-rom, or on the internet.

WMAC(NWT) Chair

The term of the WMAC(NWT) Chair will conclude on March 31, 2000. The members of WMAC(NWT) would like to thank Peter Usher for his hard work and dedication as Chair of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) for the past three years. His extensive knowledge and experience have been a valuable contribution to the Council.



Peter Usher, Out-going Chair

- Brian Johnston
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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NS)

Land Use Atlas Completed

WMAC(NS) completed the Yukon North Slope Land Use and Wildlife Atlas. The atlas was designed to provide review boards, committees and councils with a wide range of land use and wildlife maps. Copies of the atlas can be found in the offices of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, Parks Canada-Inuvik, and the Joint Secretariat.

North Slope Long Term Research Plan

WMAC(NS) held a Yukon North Slope Long Term Research Plan Implementation Workshop in Whitehorse, in January. Representatives from

various federal, territorial and state government agencies, research institutions as well as the communities of Aklavik, Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk spent two days reviewing the numerous action items identified in the Plan. Priority actions were identified and strategies for implementation were discussed.

Steps Taken to Improve HTC's Involvement

The Chair of WMAC(NS) met with the Board of Directors of the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, in February. They discussed ways to improve the HTC's involvement in Yukon North Slope research planning as well as how to improve their participation in the implementation of projects.

On the Move

WMAC(NS) members participated in a number of workshops and conferences between January and March including the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-operative Fifth Annual Gathering, the Grizzly Bear Research and Management Workshop in Inuvik, the Marine Ecosystem Health Workshop in Aklavik and the Parks Canada consultations on Ivvavik National Park.

- Aileen Horler
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JOINT SECRETARIAT - INUVALUIT RENEWABLE RESOURCE COMMITTEES

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Joint Secretariat provides administrative and technical support to the wildlife and environmental co-management boards set up pursuant to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement and to the Inuvialuit Game Council.

Upcoming Meetings...

- EISC - May 31-June 2 and July 17-19 (tentative), Inuvik, NT
- FJMC - June 12-14, Inuvik, NT
- IGC - June 20-23, Inuvik, NT
- WMAC(NWT) - To be announced
- WMAC(NS) - To be announced

New Members & Staff

- **Jack Akhiatak** (Holman), member, EIRB
- **Nelson Ruben** (Paulatuk), member, IGC
- **Donald Inuktalik** (Holman), alternate, WMAC-NWT
- **Catherine Pinard** (Inuvik), Program Manager, Inuvialuit Harvest Study
- **Ed McLean** (Inuvik), Resource Biologist, FJMC
- **Eric Chernoff** (Inuvik), Resource Person (term) for Kuñnek Review, EIRB

Inuvialuit Harvest Study

The Inuvialuit Harvest Study is back!

After being suspended in 1998 for a year, and after consultations and discussions, the IHS starts over again! The IHS has been reviewed and modified, and in March, one field worker per community has been hired and started collecting harvest information for the year 2000.

Only the active harvesters will be interviewed every month. All occasional and non-active harvesters will remain on a reserve list and will be interviewed only once a year. If you are an active harvester but you have never been contacted by a field worker this year, or if you are on the reserve list and want to be put on the active list, please call your local HTC. All individual information will remain strictly confidential!

The IHS has three main objectives:

- 1) It helps establish the fish and wildlife needs of the Inuvialuit;
- 2) It helps in making informed wildlife management decisions so that wildlife can be protected and preserved for future generations;
- 3) It provides information to justify compensation for loss of harvesting opportunities and income.

To achieve these goals, the IHS collects long term information about when, where and how much fish and wildlife is harvested. To help you record your harvest, your Field Worker or HTC distribute the Harvest Study Calendar. If you don't have it already, ask for your copy!



You can do your part to help manage wildlife in the ISR by reporting what you harvest to your local community Harvest Study interviewer.

To learn more about the IHS, watch for the next public meeting on the Harvest Study in your community or call Catherine Pinard (Harvest Study Coordinator in Inuvik) at 777-2828, or call your local Field Worker.

Artists? The IHS needs your help!

To help promote the redesigned IHS, we need a logo. Start thinking about it! More details will be available at your local HTC in April.

- Catherine Pinard
ihs-js@jointsec.nt.ca

GIS/Technical Services

The Beaufort-Mackenzie Mineral Development Area Website

We've recently unveiled the Beaufort-Mackenzie Mineral Development Area Website (www.bmmda.nt.ca) with RWED-Minerals, Oil and Gas Division and the Inuvialuit Land Corporation. Check it out!! It uses amazing new technology to make GIS available to everyone with access to the internet. We want you to use a GIS (Geographic Information Systems) to make YOUR OWN maps!!!! This cutting edge technology is available right here in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR) and includes tons of information about the ISR. Please let us know what you think of the site! It's there for YOU! My contact info is on the website, feel free to phone or e-mail me.



Map of Beaufort Sea Bathymetry reveals sea floor depths.

New Fisheries GIS Program for JS

DFO-Oceans Sector will soon be sponsoring a GIS person here at the Joint Secretariat. Ms. Bridget Ady from GeoArctic, in Calgary came up to Inuvik for two months and jump-started the program. She was great! Her 20+ years experience "in the business" were a huge help here at the Joint Secretariat. Bridget was instrumental in designing a large geo-spatial database that will be resident here at the Joint Secretariat.

- Mike Muller
gis-js@jointsec.nt.ca

Community Conservation Plans

In cooperation with the WMAC (NWT), the communities and agencies here in the ISR, the six Inuvialuit Community Conservation Plans were revised and re-drafted. They look great! Hopefully you've had a chance to see one of the drafts. Check them out at your HTC office. They contain YOUR conservation priorities... if they don't, let your HTC know!

ISR Trivia...

In the future, we hope to use the JS BULLETIN to better inform Inuvialuit beneficiaries about natural resources co-management issues in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. In this issue we will start things off easy with a warm-up pop quiz to test your ISR knowledge...

- 1) What percent of the total ISR area is water?
- 2) How many national parks are found within the ISR?
- 3) How many members sit on the Inuvialuit Game Council?
- 4) What is the estimated number of adult muskox on Banks Island?



The ISR covers a vast area of over a million square kilometres.

ANSWERS to ISR Trivia "Pop-Quiz"

- 1) 71% of the total area or 837,370 km²
- 2) 3 national parks - Aulavik, Ivavik, and Tuktit Nogat
- 3) 6 voting members and a chair. The IGC has 100% Inuvialuit membership with 1 voting member and 1 alternate elected by each of the 6 HTCs in the ISR
- 4) Estimated population of 45,833 adult muskox live on Banks Island (based on a 1998 survey by RWED)