



JS BULLETIN

Volume 3, Issue 1

SPRING 2002

Board Development Workshops

The Board Development Training Workshop - hosted by the Joint Secretariat and presented by Cheryl Best of Best Business Services - occurred in Aklavik and Inuvik from January 23rd to 26th, 2002 and in Paulatuk, Sachs Harbour and Holman from April 10th to 16th, 2002.

Diane Dillon (HTC Administrative Support Officer- Joint Secretariat) contracted Cheryl Best (Best Business Services) to teach effective organization conduct to board members of the Hunters and Trappers Committees (HTCs), the Community Corporations and the Elders Committees.

Some attributes of an effective organization are:

- to have a clear vision of mandate, goals, and strategy
- to have legal structure
- to manage change

I, Alisha Chauhan (IGC Technical Resource Person – Joint Secretariat), joined Diane and Cheryl for the Paulatuk, Sachs, Holman community training tour; Robin Fonger (HTC Technical Resource Person – Joint Secretariat) joined in the workshop at Sachs Harbour.

- Alisha Chauhan
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Board Development Training Workshop at Holman Hamlet Chambers April 16, 2002

From left clockwise: Cheryl Best (Best Business Services), Lillian Kanayok (OHTC Resource Person), Peter Malgokak (Community Corporation), John Alikamik (OHTC), Allen Joss (OHTC), John Kuneyuna (OHTC), Joseph Haluksit (OHTC), Margaret Kanayok (OHTC), Donald Inuktalik (OHTC), Mary Okheena (Community Corporation), Robert Kuptana (Elder), Laverne Goose (Community Corporation)

The Joint is on the Move ...

Another busy Winter season has drawn to a close, Billy Day went out to his camp in April – so that was Spring. Early May, however, was more like the Fall, but there is still Summer to look forward to.

By the time these words are read, the Joint Secretariat should have changed places with the Inuvialuit Development Corporation on the second floor of the Corporate Centre. For the past year or so we've been somewhat like a crustacean getting ready to shed its exoskeleton – bursting at the seams! The move gives us more space, some of which is needed for two new staff members.

We welcome Alisha Chauhan and Kevin Bill – Technical Resource Persons for the IGC and Wildlife Co-Management respectively. At the same time we bid farewell to Eric Chernoff who is planning to be working with communities in South East Asia. We wish him and

Jennifer well in their endeavours, and also welcome aboard Jonathan Allen who is Eric's replacement as EIRB Resource Person.

- Norm Snow
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JS staff bids farewell to Eric Chernoff

The Inuvialuit Game Council & Development Issues

As everyone is well aware, the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) represents the collective Inuvialuit interest in wildlife.

As oil & gas exploration continues throughout the ISR, the IGC strives to keep up with the activity to ensure impacts on Inuvialuit harvesting rights and the environment we rely upon are minimal.

The industry consultation and responses to their activities are coordinated with the relevant HTCs where appropriate. This process includes a pre & post operation session with the operators. Recognizing the meeting overload from this, we continue to suggest that the operators coordinate their presentations where possible.

Each of the communities is expected to address the exploration activities taking place around them by pointing out traditional, cultural, seasonal uses & sites throughout each project.

Beneficiaries - Backbone of IFA
As each beneficiary is the backbone of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, we rely on them to provide us with the guidance and direction needed to deal with our operations. This can only occur if our community organizations

are functioning properly and receive adequate support from their community beneficiaries.

As we are responsible for the wildlife and its habitat, the HTCs have the added responsibility of dealing with the provision of wildlife monitors directly or otherwise. Training has been provided which includes industries' needs.

As part of the duties, each monitor records the daily operations, activities & sightings which are to be provided to the relevant HTC to forward copies to the IGC, ILA & others where appropriate. The IGC has been stressing the need for similar reports from DIAND field officers, ILA monitors, and other regulatory agencies such as DFO, in order to provide a coordinated approach. This would also help to identify any potential impacts or duplication of regulatory tasks. This continues to be a difficult issue for the regulatory bodies.

Harvester Claims Resolution Agreement Pursued
The IGC has also been pursuing a "Harvester Claims Resolution Agreement" with the various developers. This is designed to address impacts presently taking

place. We have tried, on occasion, to have this addressed when all the stakeholders are together. This continues to be a concern in need of resolution.

Passage of the US Senate Energy Bill would seem to make an "over-the-top" pipeline route to bring Prudhoe Bay gas up the Mackenzie Valley an unlikely proposition at the present time. The Mackenzie Delta Producers Group and the Mackenzie Valley Aboriginal Pipeline Corporation have, however, announced their intention to open a regional office in Inuvik this summer. A project description (Preliminary Information Package) for a "stand alone" pipeline up the Valley to bring Delta gas to southern markets, is also expected later this year.

The IGC, ILA and JS continue to participate in coordinating the environmental assessment and regulatory procedures to deal with such a project. A Cooperation Plan has been developed and we are currently participating in the elaboration of the elements of the preparation phase addressed in the Plan.

- Duane Smith
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HTC Support News

Another busy winter comes to an end in the ISR. The Delta HTCs have kept busy coordinating wildlife monitors and attending various meetings with industry while the coastal communities have kept busy with sport hunts. Congratulations to all HTCs for getting through yet another season! Welcome to Laura Paterson who has joined the Inuvik HTC as Resource Person (RP).

Training Events

A majority of the HTC RPs attended the Accounting Cycle I Community Finance Training in Inuvik in February and all agreed that the course was well delivered and should be useful

in daily accounting activities. The subsequent portion of this course will be offered in June in Yellowknife.

Board Development Training for all HTC Board members was also completed in January and April. This event was also found to be a great success. (See sideline article on this page.)

Trapper Training Land Skills Program

In March the Inuvik HTC coordinated a Trapper Training Land Skills Program for Inuvialuit youth. Eight instructors volunteered to chaperone 3 youths each at their camps for 10 days.

... story continued on Page 4



Inuvialuit Game Council

Polar Bear Management

The IGC recently hosted the 13th Annual Meeting of Joint Commissioners and Technical Advisors of the Inuvialuit Game Council and the North Slope Borough to the Management Agreement for Polar Bears of the Southern Beaufort Sea. The Commissioners include two Inuvialuit members, Frank Pokiak and Larry Carpenter, and two Inupiat members, Charlie Brower of Barrow and Fenton Rexford of Kaktovik. The technical advisors include polar bear biologists from the USA and Canada. They annually review the "Inuvialuit-Inupiat Polar Bear Management Agreement in the Southern Beaufort Sea" and share harvest and research data. This agreement has been recognized as one of the first international management agreements



Polar Bears, 2000 (Photo: Parks Canada)

between two aboriginal groups.

Climate Change

The IGC sent representatives from all six communities to the Sea Ice Variability and Climate Change Workshop in Winnipeg, Manitoba, March 7-8, 2002. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together Inuvialuit local knowledge and southern science perspectives on a selected number of themes. Some of these themes included hemispheric vs. regional variability, the effects of sea ice on shoreline dynamics and the ecological implications of sea ice variability and change. All of these themes focussed on the Beaufort Sea in an effort to identify research priorities for this region. They also received an update on the Canadian Arctic Shelf Exchange Study (CASES) which is a

large multidisciplinary, international research program which will examine the biological response to sea ice variability and change in the Western Arctic. It is a three year project which is proposed to run from 2002-2004 and the work will take place almost totally within the ISR.

Legislation

The IGC has continued to comment on various draft legislation such as the new NWT Wildlife Act to ensure that it is complimentary to Inuvialuit harvesting rights.

New Staff

The IGC would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Alisha Chauhan as the IGC Technical Resource Person. She will be taking on some of the added responsibilities that have come with the increase in development activity.

- Nelson Perry

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EIRB

Environmental Impact Review Board

Mackenzie Valley Pipeline Cooperation Plan (Yellowknife, NWT)

The chairs and working group met at the Baker Centre in Yellowknife April 2nd to the 4th to finalize the development of the **COOPERATION PLAN for the Environmental Impact Assessment and Regulatory Review of a Northern Gas Pipeline Project through the Northwest Territories**. Representatives from the Joint Secretariat (JS) were: Norm Snow; Robert Hornal; Duane Smith; Bill Klassen; Jonathan W. Allen.

Husky Lakes Management Criteria Workshop (Inuvik, NWT)

The EIRB is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 8 to further develop criteria to be applied to projects in the area including and surrounding

Husky Lakes known as **Area Number 2** in the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). The workshop will look at criteria for establishing environmental standards for a project and for evaluating the developer's standard of performance, mandated under section 8, subsection (1) of the IFA.

Devon-B.O.S.S. Camp, Drill Rig, and Tuk M-18 Wellhead Visit (Tuktoyaktuk, NWT)

Representatives of the EISC and EIRB were invited to the **Devon-B.O.S.S. camp** to see a presentation of their employee training seminar, the camp facilities, a drill site, and the Tuk M-18 wellhead. Recently, it was announced that M-18 is a promising commercially-viable source of natural gas.

New Resource Person for EIRB (Inuvik, NWT)

Jonathan W. Allen started work on Tuesday, April 2nd, replacing former Resource Person—**Eric Chernoff**. Jonathan formerly of Moncton, New Brunswick holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Diploma in Environmental Technology. A former inspector with the NB-Department of Environment and Local Government (DELG)—Environmental Impact Assessment Branch, Jonathan was involved in monitoring two major linear construction projects: the Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline Project (M&NPP) and the Fredericton-to-Moncton Highway Project (FMHP).

- Jonathan W. Allen

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Environmental Impact Screening Committee

Membership

The EISC reluctantly bid farewell to GNWT Member Marsha Branigan, who resigned in January 2002. A new member has not been appointed.

Screened Seismic Programs

The EISC held five meetings since fall 2001. Gas exploration companies submitted proposals in October and December for the winter operating season. The EISC screened and decided that twelve seismic programs submitted by Petro-Canada, Anderson, Conoco, Shell, AEC West, and Anadarko would have no significant negative environmental impact. At the same time they noted that the close proximity of seismic programs in the area west of Husky Lakes suggested that there may be some impact on harvesting, even if not significant at this time. The EISC also screened and approved several drilling programs from Petro-Canada and a pipeline construction evaluation project from ArctiGas Resources Corp.

On several occasions companies amended submissions to the EISC prior to screening in order to concur with Inuvialuit Community Conservation Plans and the wishes of the



The EISC visits Devon's Akita Equatak drill rig [l to r: Bill Klassen (Chair), Chuck Hubert, Linda Graf (Secretary), Billy Day,

community. Shell withdrew seismic lines within Site 725D from their Aklavik 2D program. It is an area of special importance east of the Babbage River. Petro-Canada withdrew consideration of

the use of dynamite charges in the Zed Lake area of its Nuna seismic program.

They later received approval from ILA to place listening devices only (geophones) on the lake.

Other Development and Research

Other developments and research approved through the IFA screening process included programs submitted by GNWT Department of Transportation (dock), EGT Inuvik Ltd. (dock), Environment Canada (permafrost), University of New Brunswick (climate change), Geological Survey of Canada (geophysical), Northern Engineers and Architects Limited (communications tower stabilization), Memorial University (paleoecology), and Defence Construction Canada (water permit).

Operating Guidelines and Procedures

The EISC's revised Operating Guidelines and Procedures should be ready soon. The most notable changes have been to provide greater detail on information requirements and the listing of non-government funded research as exempt from the screening process.

- Linda Graf

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Fisheries Joint Management Committee

FJMC Meets New Fisheries Minister

In April 2002, the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) met with the new federal Minister of Fisheries & Oceans (DFO), the Honourable Robert Thibault, in his Ottawa office. Four themes were discussed: 1) the need for increased Departmental and Committee resources to better manage accelerating hydrocarbon activities in the Beaufort-Delta; 2) the need for a federal commitment to more baseline science in Canada's Western Arctic; 3) update on a multi-stakeholder effort to establish a pilot marine protected area under the Oceans Act to ensure that traditional Inuvialuit subsistence whaling will not be impacted by development; 4) the changing roles & responsibilities of the FJMC.

Traditional Knowledge Study Completed

The West Side Working Group (WSWG) recently completed a traditional knowledge fishing study in February 2002 with 20 Inuvialuit participants from Aklavik and Inuvik. Study facilitator and Aklavik resident, Richard Papik, coordinated this project in cooperation with a University of Manitoba graduate



Aklavik fishers share their stories in a traditional local knowledge study recently completed.

student, Melissa Marschke. Observations and stories collected from fishers of North Slope and Western Delta waters provided valuable insights, spanning over 70 years, on trends in fishing site and species usage, as well as changes in the local environment and habitat. This information will be included in a community-driven integrated fisheries management plan that the WSWG is currently developing. The WSWG is chaired by Carol Arey of Aklavik and includes representatives from

Aklavik Hunters & Trappers and Elders Committees, the FJMC, DFO, and Parks Canada Agency.

Bridges Built Between DFO and US Fisheries Habitat Regulators

The FJMC was pleased to recently revive a tradition from boom times of the 1970-80's. In February 2002, the FJMC facilitated an informal meeting in Anchorage between field level biologists and regulators from the Northwest Territories, Yukon, and Alaska. The meeting allowed DFO regulators and their US counterparts to share information, experiences, and mitigation strategies regarding the impacts of oil & gas activity on fish and habitat. Bridges built through this gathering, that will likely become an annual event, will hopefully go a long way to enhancing international co-operation and communication during the current boom. Thanks to DFO Habitat Biologist, Bruce Hanna, for all his logistical support in making this meeting a great success.

- Ed McLean
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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT)

Wildlife Harvesting Season & Zone Changes

At the December meeting the Council reviewed ISR species subject to quota under the NWT Wildlife Act. HTCs request changes to the IGC, who discuss them and send suggestions to the WMAC (NWT), who consider if there are any conservation concerns for those populations. The WMAC (NWT) made the following recommendations to the RWED Minister:

- combine the two muskox zones on Victoria Island into one;
- change the start of the Tuktoyaktuk area marten trapping season to October 1;
- change the muskox sport hunting season in zone IMX/06 near Paulatuk to September 15 – April 30;
- establish a sport hunting season for wolves and wolverines in the ISR.

Until RWED changes the regulations, the former regulations still apply. The Council, IGC and RWED are working to speed up the process in the future.

Spring/Summer Research Season, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) Projects

The Council conducted its annual review of ISR research proposed by CWS at their March meeting. RWED's proposals will be discussed at the June meeting. CWS projects are funded by Inuvialuit land claim implementation funds (covering about 25% of the costs), CWS, other government departments, oil and gas industry, universities, Gwich'in organizations, Ducks Unlimited, and US Fish & Wildlife Service. The WMAC (NWT) approved 11 projects, many multi-year:

- Snow Geese - air photo surveys of colonies at Anderson River, Kendall and Banks Islands, banding on the mainland and Banks Island to determine survival rates and fall and winter shifts in distribution, habitat effects on Banks Island from geese;
- Gas development - effects on tundra swans in the delta (using field research and traditional knowledge), effects of seismic on birds and habitat in the Kendall Island Bird Sanctuary;
- White-fronted Geese and other waterfowl - surveys of the mainland population, waterfowl

harvest data collection in Holman, Paulatuk and Sachs Harbour;

- Murres - population assessment at Cape Parry Bird Sanctuary;
- High Arctic (grey bellied) Brant - determining genetic distinctiveness, information about fall staging and wintering areas, survival rates;
- King and Common Eiders - locations of staging, breeding and wintering areas.



With the increase in oil and gas exploration in the region, it's important to have baseline data on harvested species as well as research on species that may demonstrate effects from development.

- Katherine Thiesenhausen
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Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NS)

WMAC (NS) Spring 2002 Meeting

WMAC(NS) held its spring meeting in Whitehorse, in early May. Agenda items included a review of the Canadian North Slope Muskox Management Plan, the Ivvavik National Park Management Plan, and the Yukon North Slope Wildlife and Conservation Management Plan. All of these plans are in the final stages of revisions, with recommendation by the Council expected this summer. Also on the agenda was a briefing by Dave Ladret (Yukon Government) on the activities planned for Herschel Island Territorial Park over the summer. Don Toews provided the Council with an update on the Yukon Government's initiatives to implement the Species at Risk Act.

Other business at the May meeting included the review and recommendation of proposals for 2002-2003 wildlife research projects. Recommendations for funding were made by the Council based on research priorities identified in a number of regional and species-based management plans, meetings with the Aklavik Hunters and Trappers Committee, the Aklavik HTC research priority list, community

consultations through public meetings in Aklavik and at the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op annual gatherings. Recommendations were made in support of a variety of proposals. These include a number of projects related to environmental monitoring in Ivvavik National Park and on Herschel Island, as well as research on the Porcupine caribou herd and North Slope muskox. Community-based monitoring in Aklavik, a study on tundra swans in the delta region and the continued collection of harvest data were also supported.

Parks Canada and the Yukon Government continued their joint muskox ecology program with an aerial survey of the North Slope in early April. A total of 186 muskox were counted in an area east from the Alaska border to Shingle Point. All but ten of the muskox were seen in Ivvavik National Park.

Muskox Communications Strategy

The Council has developed a Muskox Communications Strategy. The strategy includes the development and production of educational materials and communication products related to the

ecology and management of Yukon North Slope muskox.

WMAC(NS) members Herbert Felix and Danny C. Gordon attended the 7th Annual Gathering of the Arctic Borderlands Ecological Knowledge Co-op, in Fort McPherson (Feb 28- March 2). WMAC(NS) continues to support the Co-op by providing organizational funding for the Gathering every year.

New Appointment

Martin Raillard has been appointed as the new WMAC(NS) member for the Government of Canada. Martin replaces Joan Eamer who sat on the Council for over six years. Martin has recently become the Manager of the Environmental Conservation Branch of Environment Canada, in Whitehorse. The Environmental Conservation Branch includes the Canadian Wildlife Service. Martin worked in Inuvik for a number of years with Parks Canada.

Visit the WMAC(NS) website www.taiga.net/wmac.

- Aileen Horler
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JOINT SECRETARIAT - INUVIALUIT 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	- June 17 - 19 - July 22 - 24 - September 4 - 6	Inuvik Inuvik Inuvik
EIRB	- October (<i>tentative</i>)	location tba
FJMC	- June 9 - 11	Yellowknife
IGC	- June 12 - 15 - September 23 - 26 (<i>note change</i>)	Holman Whitehorse
WMAC (NS)	- July 17 - 18	Herschel Island
WMAC (NWT)	- June 8 - 9 - September	Holman location tba

New Staff & Positions...

- Jonathan W. Allen, Resource Person, EIRB
- Alisha Chauhan, IGC Technical Resource Person, JS
- Kevin Bill, Co-Management Technical Resource Person, JS

HTC Support News

These youths learned a variety of traditional skills from setting traps to cooking and sewing. Thanks to all who participated making this a memorable event.

Climate Change

A series of workshops were completed in January and February in the Delta communities where observations of environmental change were discussed. These workshops were organized by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and involved the training of regional representatives including Diane Dillon (JS), Robin Fonger (JS), Barbara Armstrong (IRC) and Mark Buell (IRC). There was good attendance at each workshop and a follow-up information session was completed in April to discuss where the information from these workshops has been used. Each workshop participant will be given copies of the final workshop reports later this year. Similar workshops are planned for Paulatuk and Holman in the upcoming year.

Inuvialuit Harvesters Assistance Program

Another round of IHAP funding has been distributed. This year \$217,000 was distributed to 56 selected eligible beneficiaries within and outside the ISR. Recipients of this funding are selected by an IHAP Board in each community. Successful applicants are chosen based on predetermined criteria outlined by each Board.

- Robin Fonger
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ITK Climate Change Workshop working group in Tuktoyaktuk (Photo: ITK).

GIS Services

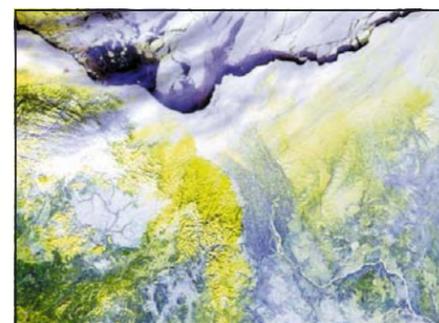
Departures

Todd Slack completed his contract with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans at the Joint Secretariat this past March. He is now providing GIS services to Resources Wildlife and Economic Development in Inuvik.

Map Requests for Research Projects

Spring has come and it is time for the oil and gas companies to take a well earned rest. There is no rest at the JS however as this time of year many research proposals are submitted for screening to the EISC.

The GIS Services at the JS support the EISC by preparing maps of the proposed research or development areas. These maps include layers with important sites as identified by the community from the relevant Community Conservation Plans. They provide a good visual of project locations and areas of importance to the communities for the EISC when screening pro-



Satellite image of ice conditions in the Beaufort Sea during March 2002.

jects. These maps produced by GIS Services are also used by the Technical RPs at the JS as a component of their project summaries. So far this year, the GIS Services at the JS have received 11 requests for these maps.

Inter-Agency Cooperation

Richard Vladar recently began as GIS Specialist at the Inuvialuit Land Administration. Various sharable data have been sent to him so far to start the GIS engine in Tuk. Good luck Richard!

- Amir Hassanzadeh
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The Importance of Community Involvement

Many of us remember when we had very little or no say in the laws that were established, with regards to our hunting and trapping activities. Many of the laws and regulations were put into place without the proper research needed, bringing about complications, confusion, and much frustration to both harvesters and wildlife managers.

Inuvialuit Rights and Responsibilities

As all Inuvialuit know we have a land claim, which was settled in 1984. Within the claim, the Inuvialuit received certain rights, obligations, and co-management processes, that are entrenched in the Canadian Constitution. The Inuvialuit have the preferential right to harvest wildlife for subsistence use and we also have the exclusive right to harvest furbearers, including bears, and musk-oxen throughout the Western Arctic Region, and all game on private lands. With these rights also comes much responsibility, and community involvement is very

important.

The Inuvialuit Game Council was established, amongst other things, to ensure a continued Inuvialuit interest in the management of our wildlife. The Council is made up of the six Inuvialuit communities that our claim represents. The Council makes decisions such as, who sits on various co-management committees, attends meetings on its behalf, and advises government on wildlife policy, legislation, regulation and administration, etc. The Council also assigns community hunting and trapping areas within the Settlement Region, allocates quotas to communities, and assists the Hunters and Trappers Committees and various co-management bodies in carrying out their functions.

Community involvement is very important in the whole process, since it is the HTCs that are the community level representation. They also comprise the Inuvialuit Game Council, and are members of wildlife co-management boards. Communities

need to ensure that they have strong representation, that will voice their concerns on these various bodies.

Community Conservation Plans

A form of community involvement arising from the claim is the establishment of Community Conservation Plans (CCP) for each community. This process involved elders, Community Corporations, hunters and trappers, and hamlet representatives. A good example of this is in the Aklavik Community Conservation Plan, in which there is a section on community values. The principles of the Plan are:

- Conservation is first priority,
- Integrated management,
- Maximize community benefit,
- Protect priority community activities,
- Co-operative management of shared resources,
- Maintain healthy environment and
- Consistency.

The other CCPs contain goals or

principles that are very similar.

Now that there is a lot of development activity in the region, it becomes very important for us to know what changes are happening to our environment. The wildlife and environmental monitors that are employed play a huge part in the future of development and our enjoyment of the land. In order for proper decisions to be made, with regards to wildlife management and development, we need communities to tell us what they are harvesting, and changes that they notice happening to the land and wildlife.

It is our responsibility to ensure that our future generations can harvest wildlife, enjoy the land, be equal and meaningful participants in society, and preserve our cultural identity. The involvement of our communities in order to achieve these goals, is fundamental.

- Larry Carpenter
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