

## Co-Management, Development, Wildlife and Land Use Planning

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### Paul Irngaut – Wildlife

*(see Powerpoint Presentation)*

In Nunavut, wildlife is an important source of food and clothing (personal and commercial use). Food is expensive in Nunavut, and country food is affordable and nutritious. Knowledge of the wildlife is important; it provides insight into population trends, the health of the land and animals. In Article 5 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), there are four parts:

1. Inuit harvesting rights
2. Inuit self-regulating organizations (HTOs/RWOs)
3. An institution of public government (NWMB)
4. Standards for government restrictions on Inuit harvesting (TAH, etc.)

There is provision in the NLCA for Inuit involvement in all aspects of wildlife management. Inuit have to be involved in every aspect of wildlife management. Research is very important too, and Inuit want to be involved; research is approved if it involves Inuit. Hunters and Trappers Organizations review and approve proposals. Have to hear people's concerns before a project can move ahead, including development and land use projects.

Inuit Qaujimagatugangit (IQ): Affects decisions at all levels of government. When decisions are made, Inuit traditional knowledge must be part of the process. Nunavut Wildlife Management Board always relies on IQ.

### Inuit Right to Harvest

Article 5 is meant to support subsistence harvest, but also economic opportunities. No license is required by Inuit. Disposition of harvest: an Inuk is able to give wildlife to any person, or to sell, barter, exchange and give either inside or outside the Nunavut Settlement Area without any form of tax or fee. Includes anything harvested on land and sea.

Example: Baffin Island Caribou Hunt, 2015

A survey was done on the population, there was Inuit input and knowledge collected, and then a moratorium imposed quickly which surprised a lot of Inuit. Consultations were limited. The Minister decided on the moratorium. NWMB held a public hearing, invited interested parties. As a result, limited hunt allowed, 250 total for the entire Baffin region, with restrictions: males only. Actual harvest was well below 250, and the caribou have moved on. They will be back, it's just a cycle.

### Parallel Rights

Inuit have a right to harvest for subsistence needs and economic needs. People need to eat, and need to offset the high cost of living in the North. There is a lot of intercommunity trade which can create economic opportunities. However, if unchecked, Inuit right to harvest for economic needs can impact wildlife. Restrictions such as the moratorium have to be imposed, which impacts harvesting and creates hardship. Hardship in one area creates a lot of inter-settlement trade, which can create stress on other populations in other regions.

### Conclusions

Although there are structures in place for Inuit involvement, the process is not integrated efficiently. Inuit participation is crucial. Support must be provided for Inuit involvement. NWMB and other hearings (mining, etc.) are very technical. Inuit want to participate, but they need technical support. Inuit are stewards of the land and wildlife, and provide important checks and balances to protect wildlife. Inuit need to be involved right from the start.

### Areas for Improvement

- Consultation and communication: Without communication, there can be discontent.
- Legislation and regulations are needed, are still being developed and implemented, require Inuit involvement in order to work. If they are not informed they will not listen.
- Implementation of the NLCA. All parties must do their part. Inuit are trying to do their part, but the federal government must honour the agreement.

### **François Dorval – Parnasimautik, a Comprehensive Vision of Development According to Nunavik Inuit**

Makivik Corporation is a signatory to a modern treaty, the James Bay Northern Quebec Agreement, and the Nunavik Inuit Land Claim Agreement. In 2013 leaders decided consultation was needed.

Communities were visited, each for three days, sectoral presentations were made. There was no precedent for this. A youth consultation was also organized.

The resulting consultation report is not a wish list, but a vision of development in all fields of society. A vision of the future that includes greater control of land and government in every aspect of their lives in the community and the region. Participation was broad, even by radio.

Following the consultation report, the annual general meeting of Makivik adopted the Nunavik Inuit Declaration (visit [www.makivik.org](http://www.makivik.org) for complete text of the Declaration):

- To diligently pursue all means for improving our well-being according to our culture, language and way of life;
- To continue to support and provide our youth with the skills they need to succeed in the modern world as proud Inuit;
- To secure an expanded and adequate land base for our wildlife harvesting activities and the development of our communities;
- To create a new governance structure in Nunavik that meets our needs as Nunavik Inuit, as citizens of Québec and Canada, and as an indigenous people in the global community;
- To support industrial development only if it is sustainable and equitable towards us, and respects all environmental and social protection regimes under our land claims agreements, laws and regulations;
- Our power is in unity. Parnasimautilirijit, comprised of the Makivik Corporation, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, the Kativik School Board, the Kativik Regional Government, the Nunavik Landholding Corporations Association, the Avataq Cultural Institute and the Nunavik Youth Association, will be created to collaborate and develop solutions to our common challenges at the regional and community levels.
- The Makivik Corporation is mandated to develop a strategy for negotiations with Québec and Canada with the collaboration and advice of Parnasimautilirijit to address our fundamental issues and priorities. Negotiations will be led by the Makivik Corporation, on behalf of Nunavik Inuit, with the participation of our organizations according to their respective mandates and responsibilities.
- The Makivik Corporation will keep Nunavik Inuit and our organizations regularly informed.

Consultation was grouped in three sections:

1. Who we are
2. Our communities
3. Our region

Who we are

Culture, language and identity: Nunavik identity has been severely challenged, yet there are no specific provisions to protect it. Promotion of Inuktitut is critical; creation of an Inuktitut Language Authority is necessary. Creation of modern cultural spaces in communities (currently there is only one museum).

## Lands

This is the theme that brought out the passion of the people. They want to revise the land regime created under the JBNQA. Population has increased significantly. The quantum of land is not sufficient to sustain the increasing population. Explore options for subsurface ownership, strengthen land rules and management powers.

Under JBNQA, Inuit own 8,000 sq km of land, compared to Nunavut 350,000 sq km; clearly a major gap.

## Food Security

This issue is linked very much to wildlife, a major concern. Inuit must be involved at all stages. Strengthen protection of Category 1 and 2 lands, increase wildlife monitoring and research, ensure management and conservation planning roles for Nunavik Inuit throughout the region, to expand protection of habitat critical for land and marine wildlife to support subsistence harvesting.

## Our Communities

Inuit are now facing major social issues. They don't want to rely on external resources to address their issues. An empowerment process is happening in many communities. Need to revive and reinforce the Nunavik Inuit values, and family traditions. Health and Social Services: every child should be healthy and live a long life; life expectancy is 10 years lower than in southern Quebec.

Education was identified as another core priority. Promotion of cultural programs and strong educational values is necessary. No post-secondary institution in Nunavik, programs needed at the community level.

Justice and social regulation is another major issue. Nunavik Inuit do not recognize themselves in the justice system, have little confidence in its efficacy, it doesn't work. Courts fly in, deal with up to 90 cases in a single day. Incarceration rates are high. There is a desire to rebuild, reconstruct social regulation at the community level.

Cost of Living is high; very high prices on many items, 52% higher than in the south of Quebec.

Housing: There is a lack of housing, need 800 houses, this leads to social and education issues.

Local Development and Essential Services: Need productive local economic activities. Need to support local economy groups, enable them to generate profits (not currently permitted) and build capacity.

Employment: Another key issue. Data reveals 37.5% of households in poverty, of 4,000 jobs available, only 51% of jobs are held by Nunavik Inuit. Very young population, low education level; difficult for

employers to find local workforce. Need higher targets for Inuit employment, better retention, and more employment by Inuit at the highest levels.

#### Our Region

Regional Development: tourism and energy potential, can contribute to local economies, and should comply with existing regulations and ensure preservation and enhancement of Inuit culture, language and identity. Makivik adopted the 2014 Nunavik Inuit Mining Policy.

Regional Planning: Need improved planning tools, need to control more development in the region, and implementation of integrated resource use planning. Land use planning is spread across a number of organizations, and more cooperation is needed among them.

Fundamental Issues have been identified and will be built into an implementation plan.

#### **Other Priorities**

- Mining training
- Creation of a new workforce placement program
- Creation of protected areas not compatible with industrial development
- An expanded land base
- Inuktitut language revitalization
- Greater regulatory powers in self-government
- Creation of a regional hospital

The report is a blueprint for the future, is available online at [www.parnasimautik.com](http://www.parnasimautik.com).

Many of the above priorities are linked to the JBNQA, and flexibility, the ability to make changes to the agreement, is necessary in the future in order to adjust to changing realities.

#### **Bertha Rabesca Zoe – Land Use Planning Process**

Agreement came into effect 10 years ago. Three party agreement: Tlicho, Canada, NWT. Ensures that the language, culture and way of life of the Tlicho is protected and promoted. Tlicho also negotiated self government, have powers to enact laws, including those for search, seizure, arrest and detention, related to wildlife and many other areas, are able to develop a land use plan. Can appoint enforcement officers and levy fines.

Tlicho area is adjacent to Nunavut and Sahtu areas, and including four communities as well as Yellowknife.

Size of Tlicho lands: Tlicho lands are about half the size of Nova Scotia, six times the size of PEI.

Resource management area. The WLWB and WRRB management authority apply to this area

Tlicho own 39,000 sq. km in fee simple, with both surface and subsurface ownership.

Land use planning is about thinking for the future. Tlicho have an intimate relationship with the land since the beginning of time. The goal is to protect Tlicho culture, land and way of life. Place names explain the relationships between culture, place and time.

The land use plan identifies areas that are important to culture and way of life and providing an appropriate level of protection for those areas. Crucial difference between Tlicho land use plan and other NWT plans is that Tlicho lands have one owner: The Tlicho Government. As a result there is no land use planning board in the Tlicho Region. Land Use Plan Working Group was set up and consulted with other regions as well as hunters, trappers, etc. before settling on a final plan. The plan took about five years to complete. The land use Plan developed about 60 different directives and identified a process for review of developments. It's a basis for decision making regarding approval or denial of development proposals.

Place names are very important, as they record how people use the land. With rights come responsibilities. Lands must be protected by Tlicho and non-Tlicho alike.

#### *Key Priorities in Preparing a Plan*

- Develop a GIS library
- Identify Significant Cultural and Environmental Features
- Develop Tools for Protection

#### *Land Protection Zones*

- Land Use Exclusion Zone: totally off limits to development, protected
- Habitat Management Zone: waterfowl and other bird habitat, protected
- Traditional Use Zone: traditional trails following watersheds and rivers
- Cultural Heritage Zone: more trails
- Enhanced Management Zone: available for development (about 41% of Tlicho area)

#### *Land Use Plan Feedback*

People support the zones, but want all land to be under some form of protection. Don't want open zones where anything can take place. Wanted education of Tlicho and non-Tlicho on the importance of the land protection zones.

The Tlicho Assembly passed a law in 2013 enacting the land use plan.

Website: [www.tlicho.ca](http://www.tlicho.ca)