



December 18, 2009

Interim Chair and Board Members
Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board

Via email

Renewed Request for Intervener Status – Bathurst Caribou Management

Dear Board Members:

The NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines requests that it be granted intervener status for the February public hearings regarding management plans for the Bathurst Caribou herd. With the delay of the hearings, we submit that this is a reasonable request and understand that others have similarly requested and been granted this status.

The Chamber represents over 1000 members who rely on access to land for the conduct of business. Mining has and continues to provide many jobs, business and training opportunities for northerners. Many Tli Cho citizens and businesses are currently engaged in the mining industry. The lands over which the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board has jurisdiction comprises some of the most potentially productive mineral lands in the NWT, offering a bright future for Tli Cho residents. We believe that it would be in the public interest to include the industry's views in your deliberations.

In the Chamber's presentation at the Caribou Summit in Inuvik we emphasized our interest in participating in decisions related to caribou management in the NWT and Nunavut. Decisions regarding caribou management may impact on our exploration projects and our mining operations and on the members of the larger community who depend on the industry for their livelihood and business opportunities. Further, many of our members are actively involved in caribou monitoring and management at their operations and have information and expertise that might assist the Board. It is both fair and reasonable that the mining industry be allowed to participate fully at the hearings.

We appreciate your attention to this request.

Yours truly,

John Kearney
President

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