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NIQLIIT WILDLIFE COMMITTEE KUUJJUAQ
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January 9, 2020.

Niqliit wildlife Committee of Kuujjuaq

Submission to the Nunavik Marine Region wildlife Board

Public Hearings on the Qilalugaliginiq (Beluga).

Since time immemorial, over thousands of years Inuit have survived by hunting wildlife including those from the sea such as beluga whales surviving on edible parts, mattak, oil for warmth, make use of its stomach to make misiarq and other uses as inuit then were totally selfsustaining from outside world for many, many centuries. As time passed to the period when those from the other parts hunted it for profit at will without giving any thought of that one day their actions would impact Inuit to the point of near extinction to the present day. There are other examples hidden in history in which government try to keep inuit from knowing of such events because of what may happen to them the governments, trying to keep facts hidden but inuit have been able to find those facts in the present day, one example was to use beluga whales as targets by the Canadian arm forces practiced dropping bombs, government bounties were provided at \$25 beluga landed for a time. All this was happening while inuit were surviving by hunting beluga whale as times were changing. Immigrant companies such as the Hudson Bay Company also organized hunts of beluga whale for profit, using inuit as their hunters to hunt the beluga in and around the kuujjuaq river where to this day there remain steel ring post which were used to anchor nets to haul in beluga in hundreds including at the mucalic, ungunniavik, whale rivers, those steel rings remain at such sites with names qilaluganiavik, meaning the place for hunting beluga along the kuujjuaq river, ungunniavik river took its name as the river to

herd beluga in order to hunt them in many, many numbers under the orders of the HBC all for profit.

To the present day There are now since October 1997 locally elected wildlife groups in each of the fourteen Nunavik communities whom represent and protect the interests of Inuit, inuit hunters in matters of importance to them traditionally and to this day and to the future. Without going to further into more details the niqliit wildlife committee of kuujjuaq has also as it has over the past many years have been part of the managing and hunting beluga whales in and around in areas closer to home and further into other inuit hunting areas not at their own free will but due to federal government imposed schemes, quotas, boundaries with lines drawn on maps unilaterally imposed by a department of fisheries and oceans. Now although there are land claim agreements inuit hunters still are being imitmidated, threatened by DFO to avoid hunting in certain areas for the sake of the eastern Hudson Bay beluga to demise of all inuit hunters in the Nunavik region. This is unacceptable to our hunters in our community and it will not accepted by our hunters into the future to be held hostage and be at the receiving end of a ill informed federal government department so intend in injecting its toxic presence by quotas into inuit lives to this day. Instead the niqliit wildlife committee is proposing to not be imposed by quotas but to manage,hunt, provide samples to the Makivik research center. Kuujjuamiut hunters will hunt in traditional hunting areas and manage the beluga whale in and around our hunting areas close by and include mucalic/unguuniaivik whale,macalic rivers on managed hunts along with hunters of kangiqsuallujjuaq and tasiujaq as these two communities have also hunted in those areas. The NWCK and the communities mentioned will also explore new areas in the ungava bay, killinik areas.

The NWCK has had a quota of 40 be harvested and are now preparing to hunt it its traditional hunting areas including further away areas in Hudson strait and ungava bay. The NWCK proposes to be part of a new sub-region in the ungava bay which will be part two other subregions the Hudson strait and the Hudson Bay areas be part of managing hunts at the same time educate young inuit become good beluga hunters. All of this will become a reality with no quota in its way to successful hunts in a five year plan. Finally NWCK will require sufficient funds and

budgets to fulfil its plan along with LNUKs of the Nunavik region. NWCK also proposed that the KRG run umajuit warden program become more autonomous instead of being the simple mouth piece for DFO.

As research activity has proven it has provided useful facts of the consuming beluga mattak that mattak has selenium properties that help inuit survive health wise against diseases such as cancer and cold weather and it is healthy to eat. In the end the RNUK and all LNUKs will continue to by following inuit qaujimaningat both traditionally and to the modern day at the same to complement scientific knowledge for the benefit of all Inuit of Nunavik and reclaim its authority thru the emerging selfgoverment process under way.

Nakuqmik.

Jimmy Johannes executive member to RNUK board and president to the Niqliit wildlife Committee of Kuujjuaq.



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Niqliit Wildlife Committee of Kuujjuaq

Resolution, no. 21-08-19-01.

Re: NWCK position on the 2020-2022 management of beluga.

Whereas: the NWCK met to discuss and decide on the next management of beluga in and around the waters of Ungava Bay.

Whereas: After collecting information of the Kuujjuaq hunters over the years and to date consistent to its original state of IQ knowledge, the position of the NMRWB following the harvest of western Hudson bay beluga stocks in waters of Ungava Bay.

Whereas: upon further discussion on the matter it is hereby concluded by decision that the Kuujjuaq hunters manage, harvest, and provide beluga samples in the next management of beluga during the years 2020-2022 and that the harvest will be quota free.

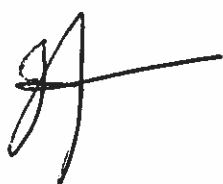
Moved by ; George Kauki

Sesonded by William Hubloo

In favour -5-

Against -0-

Dated August 22, 2019

 signed