

NUNAVUT PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2016 DRAFT NUNAVUT LAND USE PLAN

Baker Lake Community Working Group (BLCWG) formed Oct 24th, 2016:

Alexander Alooq

Paula Hughson

Lucy Iyago

James Taipana

Lena Tapatai

PRE-HEARING WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Filed by:
Baker Lake Community Working Group
January 13, 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents

1	Background and Objectives	3
2	General Comments and Recommendations.....	3
2.1	Overall structure and clarity of the DNLUP;.....	3
2.2	Consistency with the applicable legal requirements and policy context;	3
2.3	Fit with the integrated regulatory system;	3
2.4	Quality of the planning process;	3
2.5	Incorporation of input from participants in the planning process;	3
2.6	Overall balance among competing interests on important issues;	3
2.7	Governance and implementation;	3
2.8	Other.....	3
3	Specific Comments and Recommendations.....	5
3.1	[Issue #1]	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.1	Reference in DNLUP	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.2	Comment.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.3	Recommendation(s).....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.4	Rationale	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.5	Note(s).....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.1.6	Supporting Material	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2	[Issue #2]	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2.1	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4	Editorial Recommendations and Considerations.....	5

Baker Lake Community Working Group
Submission for the Public Hearing on the 2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

1/13/2017

1 Background and Objectives

The Baker Lake Community Working Group (BLCWG) formed October 24th, 2016 when the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) invited communities from the Kivalliq region and all of Nunavut to participate in the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) planning process. At this meeting in Rankin Inlet the seven communities were invited to participate and eventually when they went back to their home communities were to gather information from their community. It is interesting to note that some communities were not represented at the regional meeting in Rankin Inlet. The BLCWG returned home to Baker Lake and had November 2016, December 2016 and part of January 2017 to gather information. It needs to be noted that November December and January is not the right timing to gather information from communities as elections are being held and most organizations wait until the new elected group is in place before commenting. Another issue is the community is busy in December with Christmas activities such as school concerts, community concerts plus hamlet games and some people are travelling to other places for the holidays.

The BLCWG put out a poster for the community to submit comments electronically or in person to individuals prior to having a public meeting at the hall, which was scheduled early in the New Year.

2 General Comments and Recommendations

- 2.1 Overall structure and clarity of the DNLUP;**
- 2.2 Consistency with the applicable legal requirements and policy context;**
- 2.3 Fit with the integrated regulatory system;**
- 2.4 Quality of the planning process;**
- 2.5 Incorporation of input from participants in the planning process;**
- 2.6 Overall balance among competing interests on important issues;**
- 2.7 Governance and implementation;**
- 2.8 Other**

Issues relevant to Baker Lake below:

Baker Lake Community Working Group Comments to the 2016 DNLUP

- 2.8.1 **Protection of Caribou** - calving grounds, caribou water crossings, considering including no uranium exploration/mining in caribou calving grounds would be a start for increased number of stressors to caribou in the region.
- 2.8.2 **Heritage Rivers**; Thelon and Kazan
- 2.8.3 **Mineral Development** – exploration, mining. Communication and transparency from companies, land management groups and ensuring all people understand the implications of industrial development. Cumulative impacts from various mining/ exploration development activities on the environment, cultural landscape, wildlife and human health etc.
- 2.8.4 **Shipping** – increase shipping in freshwater waterways, need for protection and monitoring of our freshwater lake
- 2.8.5 **Drinking water** – Baker Lake, Thelon River, Prince River. Need for protection and monitoring.
- 2.8.6 **Baker Lake water** - protection from the sewage lagoon runoff in spring and summer,
- 2.8.7 **Waste management** at the local dump; toxic waste at dump and surrounding area: batteries, old fuel drums that may or may contain fuel or other substances eventually flow to Baker Lake proper.
- 2.8.8 **Dust** from the community road and the chemicals put on the road to reduce dust and then when it rains the runoff goes eventually to the lake; our drinking water,
- 2.8.9 **Gravesites** out on the Land outside of the community are of concern. These gravesites in question are on the homeland of various residents of the community of Baker Lake.
- 2.8.10 **Uranium**: Bringing forward from the Keewatin Regional Land Use Plan Term 3.6 to the DNLUP. The DNLUP is missing uranium, consultation, transparency, plebiscite, & rights of the people of the region to have a say in this type of controversial development.
- 2.8.11 **Traditional Inuit Place Names** need to be used mandatorily when referring to the Land. Inuit have been living here for hundreds of generations and some traditional Inuit place names are very descriptive and people of the area know where one is talking about when these names are used. Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, Designated Inuit Organizations and Federal government need to be more vigilant in enforcing traditional Inuit place names are used when describing for example exploration or mining company land use permits. These three land management regimes need to be more vigilant especially when Inuit language is a priority for all departments. This is very important because when a place is given a new name by exploration or mining companies for example and people of the nearest community are not aware what is happening in their own back yard so to speak.
- 2.8.12 **The Land is cultural landscape**, spiritual and alive and not only important for food, water, and fresh air but it is alive with culture and history. Parceling or boxing the Land for different uses is not how Inuit use the Land and most things are intertwined environmentally and culturally. For example there are places known and passed on for generations where people are not to camp over night or where certain beings are have known to live. How this is captured in the DNLUP is not clear.

3 Specific Comments and Recommendations

4 Editorial Recommendations and Considerations

Identification of wording in the DNLUP where minor editorial changes are recommended for legal certainty and consistency or for additional clarity. Include specific recommended wording (with track changes) using the following table:

Page #	Description, Recommendation and Rationale
P. x	<p>Section A.B – Insert specific wording.</p> <p>Recommendation – Insert proposed new wording with track changes.</p> <p>Rationale for change – Brief explanation of issue and the rationale for the proposed editorial change(s).</p>
P. y	<p>Section C.D ...</p>