



Gwich'in Social & Cultural Institute

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Bonnie Bergsma, Regulatory Specialist
Sahtú Land and Water Board
P.O. Box 1 Fort Good Hope NT X0E 0H0
Via email: bonnie.bergsma@slwb.com

June 9, 2015

Dear Bonnie,

Re: Land Use Permit Application– G15Q002 Quarrying at Midway Lake

We have reviewed the above application against our heritage databases, and have the following concerns.

The application indicates that new areas of the pit will be opened, and there will be clearing of overburden. The areas of the pit with topsoil which will be excavated may have undiscovered archaeological sites, which are protected by law. The GSCI requires that the Assessment Archaeologist at the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife be contacted to determine if an archaeological impact assessment is required before there are any ground-altering impacts to previously-undisturbed areas.

The pit is in proximity to the Midway Lake Music Festival grounds, and is within traditional hunting and berry-harvesting areas. The GSCI requests that quarrying and hauling not occur if and when it will interfere with the Midway Lake Music Festival (generally August long weekend), and requests that the excavators ensure that dust is kept to a minimum during local berry picking seasons.

As with any application, if archaeological or heritage materials are encountered during development within the Gwich'in Settlement Area, all work must cease immediately as required by law, and the GSCI and the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre in Yellowknife must then be contacted.

Sincerely,



Sharon Snowshoe
Executive Director, GSCI

c.c. Tom Andrews, PWNHC