



November 16, 2023

Mr. Leonard DeBastien
Executive Director
Gwich'in Land and Water Board
PO Box 2018
Inuvik NT X0E 0T0

Dear Mr. DeBastien,

Information Request re: Rachel Reindeer Wellness Camp

On November 7, 2023, the Gwich'in Land and Water Board (GLWB) issued an Information Request to the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) – Environment and Climate Change (ECC) related to the Gwich'in Tribal Council's (GTC) request to cancel type B Water Licence G22L3-004.

During that review, GNWT-ECC noted that the applications from the GTC were unclear in that the cancellation application for the water licence indicated that the capacity of the camp was 43 persons while the land use permit application indicated that there could be up to 140 people on site at any time.

In our initial comments on the cancellation application, GNWT-ECC requested that *“GTC confirm the capacity of the Camp, in keeping with the above-noted considerations regarding capacity. If the capacity of the Camp is more than 50 people, ENR recommends that GTC retain Water Licence G22L3-004 on the basis of a Type B Licence being triggered by a deposit of waste under Schedule F, Item 3(b) of the Waters Regulations.”* In their response, GTC noted that the *“Rachel Reindeer Wellness Camp has a current capacity limit of 42 beds, which is under the MVLWB threshold for the basis of a Type B License with regards to water use and waste deposition.”*

To enable GNWT-ECC to be able to respond to the Information Request from the GLWB adequately, the following information is requested to be confirmed by GTC:

- The maximum number of beds in the Wellness Camp,
- The maximum number of people that are anticipated to be present at the camp on any day (i.e. the maximum total number of people that may be on site at any time but not overnight), and
- The maximum number of people that may overnight at the wellness camp.

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Once GNWT-ECC receives this information, we will provide a more fulsome response to the GLWB regarding our interpretation of the Waters Regulations and its application to the Rachel Reindeer Wellness Camp.

If you require further information, please contact Rick Walbourne, Director, Regulatory and Permitting at Rick.Walbourne@gov.nt.ca.

Sincerely,



Rick Walbourne
Director
Regulatory and Permitting
Environment and Climate Change