



February 1, 2024

Chairperson Heather Bourassa  
Sahtú Land Use Planning Board  
PO BOX 235  
FORT GOOD HOPE NT X0E 0H0

**VIA EMAIL**

Dear Chairperson Bourassa:

### **Timeline for the Sahtú Land Use Plan's Next 5-Year Review**

Thank you for your December 18, 2023, letter outlining the Sahtú Land Use Planning Board's (Board) proposal to defer the timing of the next 5-Year Review of the Sahtú Land Use Plan until 2026. As per s.50 of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act* (MVRMA), the Plan is currently due for a Board-led review unless another timeframe is agreed to by the approving parties to the Plan (the Sahtú Secretariat Incorporated, Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) and Government of Canada).

The GNWT is reviewing the Board's proposal and rationale. As a next step, the GNWT is seeking further discussion with staff from the Board, the Sahtú Secretariat Incorporated and the Government of Canada to better understand all perspectives on the timing and process for the next 5-Year Review. Justin Adams, Manager of Land Use Planning in the Department of Environment and Climate Change, is the GNWT's contact for these staff discussions and will reach out to Board and federal counterparts via email to schedule a meeting.

I will provide future correspondence to the Board and other approving parties to the Plan with GNWT's decision as per s.50 of the *MVRMA*. I appreciate the Board raising this matter and for its many ongoing efforts to lead regional land use planning in the Sahtú Settlement Area.

Sincerely,

Jay Macdonald  
Minister  
Environment and Climate Change

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