



June 04, 2024

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

Dear Heather Bourassa:

I am writing to you regarding my decision on the Sahtu Land Use Plan's Zone 41 Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve amendment application, adopted by the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board on December 3, 2018. This action by the Board initiated the sequential amendment approval pursuant to subsection 48(2) of the *Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act*.

The amendment was approved by the Sahtu Secretariat Inc. on February 28, 2019. The Department of Lands of the Government of the Northwest Territories and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada then conducted joint Crown consultation with Indigenous governments and organizations whose rights may be impacted by implementing this amendment. No concerns were raised during the consultation period, allowing the Government of the Northwest Territories to proceed with its decision-making process. On June 7, 2019, CIRNAC was advised by the former Minister of Lands of the Government of the Northwest Territories, Louis Sebert, that he had approved the amendment.

Soon after, CIRNAC received correspondence from the Dehcho First Nations expressing concern that the Aboriginal and Treaty rights of its members would be adversely affected by the proposed changes to the Sahtu Land Use Plan. At that point, the decision process was paused to address the Dehcho First Nations' concerns. Consideration of those concerns is now complete.

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I am therefore pleased to inform you that I approve the Sahtu Land Use Plan's Zone 41 amendment application, adopted by the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board on December 3, 2018. The amendment is now in effect. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board and its staff for their work on this amendment application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Vandal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a stylized "Vandal".

Hon. Dan Vandal, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Jay Macdonald, M.L.A.
Charles McNeely