

NEWS RELEASE



For Immediate Release:

Wildlife Co-Management Partners Collaborate on Wildlife Symposium

Iqaluit, Nunavut (March 09, 2009) – A Nunavut Wildlife Symposium is taking place in Rankin Inlet from March 16-20, 2009. The event is being organized by a steering committee comprised of representatives from Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), the Nunavut Inuit Wildlife Secretariat (NIWS), the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB), and the Government of Nunavut (GN).

The GN Environment Minister announced the Symposium in August 2008. This announcement was made in response to concerns raised by Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTOs) and Regional Wildlife Organizations (RWOs) regarding issues such as the handling of wildlife in research, and the integration of science and Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit in wildlife research and management.

“The Government of Nunavut recognizes that in order to respond to the needs and concerns of Nunavummiut, we must engage in constructive dialogue on wildlife issues, in the spirit of *Piliriqatigiinniq*—working together. The Department of Environment is committed to working in collaboration with NTI, NIWS and NWMB to hold this symposium to improve the way we cooperatively manage wildlife in Nunavut,” said Minister Shewchuk. “The upcoming wildlife symposium is a positive step toward our collective vision of ensuring the sustainability of wildlife into the future.”

Participants at the wildlife symposium include at least two delegates from each community HTO, and each RWO, as representatives from NTI, NWMB, NIWS and federal government departments involved in wildlife management in Nunavut. Approximately 100 participants are expected to participate in the symposium.

“This will be a good opportunity for everyone to hear how research is conducted, and to explore how Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit can be incorporated into wildlife management,” said Raymond Ningeocheak, vice-president of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.

The symposium agenda includes presentations by representatives from the planning organizations, external organizations, and other invited guests and participants.

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