Government of Gouvernement des Northwest Territories Territoires du Nord-Ouest

March 29, 2022

Mr. Joe Tetlichi Chair Porcupine Caribou Management Board PO BOX 31723 WHITEHORSE YT Y1A 6L3 <u>dlemke@pcmb.ca</u>

Dear Mr. Tetlichi:

Harvest Management Plan 2022 Annual Harvest Meeting - PCMB Recommendations

Thank you for your letter dated February 24, 2022, summarizing the Porcupine Caribou Management Board's (PCMB) Annual Harvest Meeting (AHM) held on February 08, 2022.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) supports the PCMB recommendation that the Porcupine caribou herd be considered in the Green Zone (above 115,000) and that the following harvest management actions be implemented:

- Harvest only the amount needed;
- Licensed hunters receive a maximum of two bull tags;
- Shooting will be accurate and wounded animals will be retrieved; and
- Parties will collect rigorous and verifiable harvest data, to be provided for the AHM.

Obtaining an accurate and verifiable estimate of harvest from the Porcupine caribou herd is an important step to inform appropriate management actions for the herd. ENR continues to support the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board and the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat in the implementation of their respective harvest reporting programs. Technical staff from ENR would be happy to participate in a workshop-style meeting coordinated by the PCMB to discuss the issue of harvest reporting for the Porcupine herd.

ENR would like to recognize the value of the "2022-23 Milestones under the Harvest Management Plan for the Porcupine Caribou Herd" document provided by the PCMB. ENR is committed to continue supporting key activities identified in the annual cycle for the herd, and working with other Parties, stakeholders, and user communities to promote public awareness of harvest-related issues. Finally, ENR will review the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Plan in preparation for a discussion at the 2022 Annual Harvest Meeting.

I would like to thank the Porcupine Caribou Management Board for its ongoing efforts to ensure the sustainable management of the Porcupine caribou herd, as described in the Harvest Management Plan and Implementation Plan.

Sincerely,

Arin Kelly

Erin Kelly, Ph.D. Deputy Minister Environment and Natural Resources

c. Dr. Brett Elkin Assistant Deputy Minister, Operations Environment and Natural Resources

> Heather Sayine-Crawford Director, Wildlife and Fish Environment and Natural Resources

Norman Snowshoe Superintendent, Beaufort Delta Region Environment and Natural Resources