



MAY 08 2017

MR. DANIEL MCNEELY
MLA SAHTU

Oral Question 620-18(2): Sahtu Land Use Planning

I am pleased to provide further detail related to your questions on amendments to the Sahtu Land Use Plan asked in the Legislative Assembly on February 21, 2017.

The Sahtu Land Use Planning Board (the Planning Board) issued an application to amend the Sahtu Land Use Plan on January 9, 2017. The proposed amendments would rezone public land outside the Nááts'ihch'oh National Park Reserve currently designated as Proposed Conservation Initiative Zone 41. Lands within the South Nahanni Watershed would be zoned as a new Special Management Zone 41 – South Nahanni Watershed, while lands outside of the watershed would be added to existing Special Management Zone 38 – Mackenzie Mountains. The amendments would also create a new Conformity Requirement applicable to the new Special Management Zone 41.

Amendments to the Sahtu Land Use Plan require the approval of the three approval parties: the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated (SSI), the GNWT, and the Government of Canada (Canada). On February 17, 2017, the GNWT submitted a review of the amendment proposal to the Planning Board, identifying our support of the Special Management Zone proposal and some wording changes to the new Conformity Requirement. Canada has similarly stated support for the Special Management Zone.

The GNWT will continue to work collaboratively with the approval parties to bring the amendment process to a timely conclusion. We respect the Planning Board's authority to lead the amendment process and are awaiting its direction on the next steps.

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For further information on the Sahtu Land Use Plan amendment process, I invite you to review the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board public registry available at the following website: <https://sahtulanduseplan.org/>

If you have further questions, please contact my office at your convenience.



Louis Sebert
Minister of Lands

- c. Mr. Tim Mercer, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
- Mr. Gary Bohnet, Principal Secretary
- Mr. David Hastings, Legislative Coordinator
- Mr. Willard Hagen, Deputy Minister, Lands