



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

April 3rd, 2024

Signatures:

Present	Absent	Regrets
Ali Anderson Alyssa Bower-Peterson Darren Bullen Duncan Smith Mark Wierda Ian Fraser Kyler Mather	George McLeod	Dan Reynolds

Guests: Heather Dueling, Paul Boyce

Recorder: Nick Wozniewski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt Resolution 2024-04-03-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the April 3rd, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for March 20th, 2024.

Resolution 2024-04-03-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the March 20th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 Northern Mountain Caribou Summit, Dease Lake – May 22-24 2024. No Councillors will attend, Mark asked Nick to request minutes when available, or a de-brief from Mike Sutor or Paul Boyce.

Action Item: Request Minutes Northern Mountain Caribou Summit (Dease Lake, May 2024)

3.1.2 RRC AGW in Carcross – June 6/7. Nick attended the first planning meeting with other RRC ED's and a few Council members from other RRC's. Dennis Zimmerman will be facilitating the sessions again this year. During the meeting the agenda was discussed, some of the topics brought forward by other RRC's were salmon, review of the YG council appointment process (other RRC's still seeing long wait times for council appointments / vacancies), the RRC resolution process and a review of past resolutions. Nick suggested the recommendation TH (Karlie Knight) brought forward regarding a request for YG to incorporate TK in YG Acts and Regulation (i.e. letting the leader pass for caribou migrations across roads). Nick also recommended a brief discussion about predator management through the lens of the ungulate management group. Nick explained that Councillors will have to arrange for travel and accommodations, keep receipts, and submit a travel claim upon their return. Nick can issue advances if needed. Nick encouraged Councillors to book hotels ASAP, some hotels are already getting booked up for the tourist season. Ian recommended that Alyssa be invited, Nick asked Alyssa to discuss this with her parents and get back to us if she is interested.

Action Item: Councillors should book a hotel for the AGW (June 6/7) ASAP.

4. Updates

4.1 YFWMB - Concerns about consultation re YG Mineral Legislation. Sebastian is still working on a draft letter. Nick to remove this item from the agenda moving forward and let Council know if any updates.

5. Old Business.

5.1 YESAB Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River. Nick made some changes to the draft letter prior to the meeting and circulated the new paper draft copy to Council for review. Nick explained that the proponent also owns claims all along Coal Creek and Rabbit Creek. Their agent (Josee Bonhomme) submitted an application to connect Rabbit Creek claims to the Dempster Highway in 2021. YESAB project 2021-0130 was withdrawn but one can assume the proponent probably intends to link the entire network of claims including Benson Creek. Nick has identified this as a concern in the draft letter. Prior to the meeting Nick also discussed wildlife concerns with Paul Boyce and Mike Sutor, because of these conversations Nick has added / defined sheep as another potential project impact. TH is working on developing a detailed letter, they will be conducting another site visit to inspect the proposed access road and they will be conducting Citizen interviews to include with their submission. Nick will wait until closer to the deadline to request a final draft letter approval from Council in case new information comes forward from other stakeholders.

Action Item: Closer to the deadline, get Council approval for and submit letter to YESAB re Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River.

6. New Business.

6.1 Sheep Health Assessment – Request for Interview from Elaine Smarch / YG. Nick explained that Elaine was unsure about the assessment interview and what it entailed, or who was responsible for initiating it. Elaine told Nick she thinks it is YG, but Paul Boyce was in attendance and was unaware of it. Nick will reach out again to get more details, but from review of the document provided, the assessment interview looked more appropriate to be completed by an individual like Dan Reynolds or other outfitters (not ideal for a group like the RRC). The interview also appeared to be indigenous focused. Nick to request more information and update Council once more details come to light.

Action Item: Request more information from Elaine Smarch re Sheep Health Assessment.

- 6.2 TH Spring Camp Schedule – TH is offering an honorarium for trappers interested in teaching and demonstrating skinning.** No Councilors were able to attend, Ali said if TH is in need of someone he will assist.
- 6.3 April 17th Public Meeting – 3 possible delegates / presentations. Discuss starting the meeting at 5PM.** All Council can accommodate a 5PM start time.

NEXT MEETING: April 17th @ 5PM

Action Items

i.	Council	Councillors should book a hotel for the AGW (June 6/7) ASAP.	
ii.	Nick	Closer to the deadline, get Council approval for and submit letter to YESAB re Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River.	
iii.	Nick	Request more information from Elaine Smarch re Sheep Health Assessment.	
iv.	Nick	<p>Standing Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nick to stay in contact with Michelle Thompson (YG Control Order Veterinarian) and to watch for any new reports on the Movi control order being published by YG. b. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson. c. Nick to request minutes for the 24th Biennial Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council (NWSGC) Symposium in Anchorage, Alaska - April 30 to May 2, 2024. d. Request Minutes Northern Mountain Caribou Summit (Dease Lake, May 2024). e. In the Fall of 2024, encourage councillors to snare squirrels for the 2025 RSS Trapping Week. Review Feb 21, 2024 Meeting notes in preparation of Trapping Week in 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ongoing. b. Ongoing. c. Ongoing. d. Ongoing. e. Ongoing.

Meeting Adjourned: 07:30 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

April 17th, 2024

Signatures:

Present

Ali Anderson

Darren Bullen
Duncan Smith
Mark Wierda
Kyler Mather

Absent

Alyssa Bower-Peterson
George McLeod

Regrets

Dan Reynolds
Ian Fraser

Guests: YESAB (Amélie Morin, Rose Sellars, Bryony McIntyre, Roberta Joseph), YG Consultants (Matthew Brubacher, Emily Caddell), Teslin RRC, Chris Clark, Paul Boyce.

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2024-04-17-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the April 17th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for April 3rd, 2024.

Resolution 2024-04-17-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the April 3rd, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 RRC AGW in Carcross – June 6/7. The next planning meeting is scheduled for April 30th, Nick will have more updates for Council at the next DDRRC meeting. Nick asked Council to book their hotel in Whitehorse.

Action Item: Councillors should book a hotel for the AGW (June 6/7) ASAP.

4. Updates

- 4.1 Sheep Health Assessment – Request for Interview from Elaine Smarch / YG.** Nick let the Council know YG's Animal Health Unit is behind this initiative. Council asked Nick to get Dan in touch with Elaine Smarch for an interview.

Action Item: Get Dan in touch with Elaine Smarch for an interview re YG Sheep Health Assessment.

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 YESAB Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River.** Nick had not heard from TH or YG about any additional concerns regarding this project. Council asked Nick to submit the draft letter as is.

Action Item: Submit letter to YESAB re Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 YESAB Panel Review Process – Presentation from 5PM – 6PM.** Copy of presentation deck saved to DDRRC files. Nick will keep track of YESAB's website that provides updates on the Casino project, so we can be prepared to request an "Intervener" status to enable us to submit a comment during the public hearing phase of the assessment.

Action Item: Follow up with Amélie Morin (YESAB) to get a link to their Casino project info page.

- 6.2 Yukon Government Fish and Wildlife Branch Mandate Review – Interview / Presentation from 6:30PM – 8:30PM.** Following the interview guide, the consultants asked participants questions related to informal assumptions and/or perceptions of the mandate for YG's Fish and Wildlife Branch. Comments collect will remain anonymous and will be summarized and shared with YG.

Action Items

i.	Council	Councillors should book a hotel for the AGW (June 6/7) ASAP.	
ii.	Nick	Get Dan in touch with Elaine Smarch for an interview re YG Sheep Health Assessment.	Done.
iii.	Nick	Submit letter to YESAB re Project 2024-0024 - Placer Mine - Benson Creek, Trib to N Klondike River.	Done.
iv.	Nick	Follow up with Amélie Morin (YESAB) to get a link to their Casino project info page.	https://yesab.ca/casino-panel-review-23
v.	Nick	Standing Items: a. Nick to stay in contact with Michelle Thompson (YG Control Order Veterinarian) and to watch for any new reports on the Movi control order being published by YG. b. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson.	a. Ongoing. b. Ongoing.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Nick to request minutes for the 24th Biennial Northern Wild Sheep and Goat Council (NWSGC) Symposium in Anchorage, Alaska - April 30 to May 2, 2024. d. Request Minutes Northern Mountain Caribou Summit (Dease Lake, May 2024). e. In the Fall of 2024, encourage councillors to snare squirrels for the 2025 RSS Trapping Week. Review Feb 21, 2024 Meeting notes in preparation of Trapping Week in 2025. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Ongoing. d. Ongoing. e. Ongoing.
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Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.




Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

October 16th, 2024

Signatures:




Present

Dan Reynolds
George McLeod
Darren Bullen
Mark Wierda
Kyler Mather
Ian Fraser

Absent

Regrets

Ali Anderson
Duncan Smith

Guests: Heather and Luke Dueling (Tombstone Outfitters)

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt Resolution 2024-10-16-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the October 16th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for April 30th, 2024. Resolution 2024-10-16-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the April 30th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

- 3.1.1 **Yukon University RRC Presentation for Environmental Monitoring Students – Sunday October 20th, 1PM.** Nick let Council know he was asked to meet the students and discuss the roles RRC's have in the Yukon and what the DDRRC does here in the THTT. Council approved Nick doing the presentation.
- 3.1.2 **YFWMB ED Workshop and Chairs Meeting – October 22nd, Whitehorse.** Nick to send Dan and Mark updated information about the workshop. Nick will also attend.
- 3.1.3 **ECCC Grizzly Mgmt. Draft Plan Workshop – November 14th, 10:30AM.** Nick explained he has registered us for this online workshop, Dan encouraged anyone interested to attend at the DDRRC office.

3.1.4 Sausage Making Workshop Week with TH Wellness – Nov 18th – 22nd. Nick has arranged for Kevin Bowers to instruct the workshop and will be meeting with TH later this month to discuss the participants TH will be signing up for the workshop. Participants will consist of individuals from both the Women's and Men's shelter and lower income individuals or families (with a priority given to families). Participants will be required to attend a minimum of 2 days to receive a package of moose meat at the end of the week. Dan explained he has 4 quarters of meat in his walk-in freezer and is expecting another from Spencer / Reynolds Outfitting to ensure we have enough for the Fur Show stew. Luke mentioned TH received quite a bit from them so it would be worth checking if 4 quarters of moose are still needed / required. Dan will send Nick an invoice for electricity and storage costs to be approved by Council for payment. It was suggested for a spring workshop we could try and find someone local to instruct the course (i.e. Paul Derry), to cut down on costs. Kevin has indicated he is wanting to retire and soon will be unavailable to provide his services.

Action Item: Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.

3.1.5 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025. Nick asked everyone to make note of the date and at an upcoming meeting we will add discussion of the event to the agenda for more in-depth planning.

4. Updates

4.1 Community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan – Working Group Consideration. Council reviewed the letter and asked Nick to request more information. Specifically, Council would like to know how much of a commitment will be required (meeting frequency / duration). Council will need to determine if it can sustain a significant time commitment financially. Nick offered that he would like to be involved and could represent the DDRRC on the working group if that is something Council is interested in, this would also reduce potential costs.

Action Item: Nick to follow up with TH re Community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan time commitment and possible honoraria assistance if the commitment is significant.

4.2 Dawson City Wolf Snaring Workshop. Nick explained he has been in discussions with Frank Johnstone to offer a snare trapping workshop in Dawson sometime in January, ideally January 11/12. Funding to provide this one-day workshop in Yukon communities has been established through the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Trust. Nick explained he also learned through Frank (who is a member of the Teslin RRC) about a wolf trapping coordinator position that might be established in partnership with YG to assist trappers in the Teslin area. This would be a pilot project to test success. Frank said the Council is divided if this will work, suggesting providing monetary incentives is the best way to encourage trappers to more actively target wolves. Heather and Luke mentioned that on top of the wolf pelt handling incentive they offer to trappers (through the Yukon Outfitters Association - YOA), the YOA will be expanding the program to offer the incentive to hunters. Dan warned them that this could be perceived as providing a hunting bounty and is likely to not be well received by the Yukon Government.

The possibility of a second day for hands-on snare-making was proposed (DDRRC would fund this additional day of instruction). The need for a moose management program was also acknowledged by Ian Fraser, with the wolf trapping workshop being considered as part of this initiative. The possibility of a wolf skinning workshop was considered for the spring.

Action Item: Let Frank Johnstone know we are interested in a January 10/11 two-day wolf snare workshop, request costs for providing materials needed to provide participants with snares for the second day (100 snares).

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 **July Casino Mine Site Visit – Debrief from Councillors Darren, Duncan & Ian.** Ian and Darren provided Council with a short de-brief. Not a lot of information was shared during the site visit, it was more of a site tour. Most notable was the flight above the tailings structure when they flew at the elevation of the berm.

Action Item: Request brochures for Casino Mine.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 **Local Knowledge Survey – News Article and Next Steps for Short Form Survey.** There was concern brought forward from Ian and Dan about deviating significantly from the way we have been collecting data. Nick explained that now is a good time for Council to take a deep look at the survey to identify trends they would like to continue monitoring and work on simplifying the survey to reduce its length and if possible, increase the participant sample size to improve data analytics. Currently with the low sample size, only harvest activities that the majority participate in regularly (i.e. moose, cranberries and blueberries) provide identifiable trends. Nick also would like to see a reduced effort required to produce data analytics; the current reporting system requires significant data analysis and input (also at a significant cost). Ian asked Nick to provide a list of questions we have been asking and Kyler suggested we look at the list of participants and update it if necessary. Council will continue discussion of this at an upcoming meeting.

Action Item: Send Council Local Knowledge Questions from 2023.

- 6.2 **For Review: Draft Management Plan for Wolverine in Canada. Due Dec 31st.** Tabled so we can have a detailed conversation with local biologists Paul Boyce.
- 6.3 **For Review: Draft Management Plan for Grizzly Bear in Canada. Due Dec 15th.** Tabled so we can have a detailed conversation with local biologists Paul Boyce.
- 6.4 **Salmon Restoration Project – 2024 Short Film Viewing.** Council approved of the take and encouraged Nick to post the video publicly ASAP.
- 6.5 **Fernando MacFarlane Introduction – Documentary Film Maker – Human-bear Coexistence in its various forms: conservation, biology, hunting, and cultural history.** Tabled, Fernando was unable to attend the meeting.
- 6.6 **Request to participate in Yukon University Co-Management Podcast.** Council recommended Nick participate and represent Council.
- 6.7 **Vacant DDRRC Youth Councillor Position.** Nick let the Council know he has been approached by a youth participant of the Salmon Restoration Project about the youth Councillor position. There might be also interest from another. Council recommended we post the position publicly to be fair and transparent.

Action Item: Nick to advertise the vacant DDRRC Youth Councillor position online.

Next Meeting: Tuesday October 29th

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
ii.	Nick	Follow-up with TH re Community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan time commitment and possible honoraria assistance if the commitment is significant.	Done

iii.	Nick	Let Frank Johnstone know we are interested in a January 10/11 two-day wolf snare workshop, request costs for providing materials needed to provide participants with snares for the second day (100 snares).	Done
iv.	Nick	Request brochures for Casino Mine.	Done
v.	Nick	Send Council Local Knowledge Questions from 2023.	Done
vi.	Nick	Nick to advertise the vacant DDRRC Youth Councillor position online.	Done
vii.	Nick	<p>Standing Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nick to stay in contact with Michelle Thompson (YG Control Order Veterinarian) and to watch for any new reports on the Movi control order being published by YG. b. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson. c. In the Fall of 2024, encourage councillors to snare squirrels for the 2025 RSS Trapping Week. Review Feb 21, 2024 Meeting notes in preparation of Trapping Week in 2025. d. Research new survey methodology for the Local Knowledge Survey with a focus on reducing the length of survey, increasing the sample size and determine how to make our data more available to the public and usable in the development assessment process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ongoing. b. Ongoing. c. Ongoing. d. Ongoing.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

October 30th, 2024

Signatures:

Present

Ali Anderson
Duncan Smith
Darren Bullen
Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Kyler Mather
Dan Reynolds

Guests: Heather and Luke Dueling, Russ Giesbrecht, Shawn Hughes, Andrew Digman, Sebastian Jones.

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt Resolution 2024-10-30-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the October 30th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for October 16th, 2024.

Tabled, not enough Councillors in attendance.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 ECCC Grizzly Mgmt. Draft Plan Workshop – November 14th, 10:30AM. Ian is still planning on attending.

3.1.2 Sausage Making Workshop Week with TH Wellness – Nov 18th - 22nd. Nick met with TH this week; it is looking very promising for registration. The TH outreach worker is in direct contact regularly with potential participants. Nick brought up the concern of not having a backup grinder, luckily Kyler said he has a couple spare grinders he could loan us if any issues arise. Ian suggested Nick get in touch with Paul Derry as well and let him know we are interested in him getting involved.

3.1.3 DDRRC Wolf Snaring Workshop – Yukon Campus – Sunday Dec 8th. Nick explained that this workshop could be negatively received in the community so we must be careful about how we communicate details publicly. If anybody is approached about the training, Nick recommended Councillors reiterate that the training is funded by the YFWET, it is a Yukon-wide initiative, and it aligns with goals 2 and 4 of the Yukon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. The instructor is working on a poster, Council asked that if a poster isn't available for distribution early next week, Nick should work on one.

3.1.4 UFA Gathering - Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre - January 14th & 15th, 2025. The gathering will be a major event, some notable keynote speakers will be in attendance, the gathering will celebrate the UFA and discuss the current role of the UFA boards and committees with a focus on the future (a large youth contingent is expected). Nick has been participating in planning meetings, they need to know soon how many will be in attendance from the DDRRC. Nick said he might go but would prefer to attend virtually.

3.1.5 RSS Trapping Week – Feb 3rd – 7th, 2025. TH is working on booking the Hall, Nick to keep in touch with them to make sure this happens and schedule a planning meeting in January.

Action Item: Make sure TH Hall is booked for Trapping Week and schedule planning meeting in January 2025.

3.1.6 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025. Nick let Council know the school gym has been booked.

4. Updates

4.1 Community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan – Working Group Consideration. Ian Fraser put his name forward as a representative, Nick will also attend meetings.

4.2 Vacant DDRRC Youth Councillor Position. Nick let the Council know posters are up at RSS and during a meeting this week RSS / TH education staff said they may have a few youths in mind to approach. Council decided to wait until next meeting to make any decisions.

5. Old Business.

5.1 YFWMB ED Workshop and Chairs Meeting – Oct 22nd, Whitehorse. De-brief. Mark and Nick provided a de-brief of the general themes discussed during the workshop; no Chairs meeting was held due to timing constraints. The YFWMB will be preparing a full workshop report and next steps document, this will be shared with Council once available.

5.2 Local Knowledge Survey – News Article and Next Steps for Short Form Survey. Nick reiterated the issue of the old survey software application being discontinued so there is a need to seriously reassess the survey this year. Nick also explained that we would still be able to continue the data collection of the smaller sample base but at the same time increase our sample base to include the broader community (two sets of data could be created). This would mean we would not have to go in a completely different direction regarding data collection, and if a change was made it would be a trial to determine if the new data is worth collecting. Discussion of this topic tabled until the next meeting for Council to thoroughly review documents Nick has assembled.

Action Item: Council to review Local Knowledge Next Steps Document.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 YG Letter Regarding the Sheep and Goat Control Order Under the Animal Health Act.** Duncan explained it was unclear how Yukon Government (YG) plans to use the consultant reports provided in the letter. The reports cover a broad spectrum of information, YG has not provided a summary of the data and how they will use the data to determine how they intend to administer to the control order once it expires. Russ explained that the control order is necessary and that the threat of Movi and the potential severe consequences for the wild Yukon sheep and goat populations cannot be underestimated. Until the Control Order was put in place, Yukon Government was reactionary to the issue, Russ explained YG had no plans for how to deal with an infected wild sheep or goat or a process to deal with domestic animals discovered at large in wild sheep or goat habitat. Much has improved but there is still more YG can do.

Action Item: Nick to draft a letter re Sheep and Goat Control Order Under the Animal Health Act describing our difficulties responding to the letter and consultant reports provided.

- 6.2 RSS / TH Trapping Education Programming – Oct 29th Meeting De-Brief.** A summary of the meeting and action items was provided in the meeting package. Nick explained he brought up the issue of furs not being used for their intended purpose (crafting) and we should be careful about organising and promoting additional local trapping programming when we do not have in place a strategy to use the furs once the animals are skinned. Ian suggested that furs could be auctioned to increase available funds to go towards local trapping initiatives.

- 6.3 Public release of updated 2024 Wildlife Key Areas (WKA's) Inventory on GeoYukon.** The issue in the past was that the layers were rarely updated so there was a concern about inaccuracies. This update should address this issue, but Council will review the updated layers in GeoYukon to determine if any additional concerns are worth bringing to the attention of YG. Ian voiced a concern about WKA's identifying sensitive areas for hunters to exploit. Nick explained that this was a concern brought forward at a past meeting with YG biologist Mike Sutor, Mike confirmed they are aware of this issue and explained the WKA's are large enough to not identify specific sites of sensitivity (i.e. nesting sites, calving grounds, mineral licks, etc.). Nick confirmed this is still the case in the update.

Action Item: Council to review the updated WKA layers in GeoYukon to determine if there are any additional concerns.

- 6.4 Conservation Office Update on 2024 Hunting Season.** Shawn Hughes and Andrew Digman provided the update. Shawn began with a summary of moose collisions over the summer and fall, unfortunately 2 collisions occurred near Germaine Creek and 1 at the S curve near the Hunker intersection. Staffing of CO's in the THTT is looking good with some recent new recruits, including a CO for the Mayo area. For harvest activity, the 60 mile / Matson areas were notably busy this year, in addition to the Hart River Road and the Goldfields. Overall, in the THTT it appeared to Shawn it was a normal year regarding hunting pressure. Shawn noted that expedition style hunting is getting more popular, this includes hunting in remote areas on foot or using chartered planes. For use of chartered planes, Duncan asked how CO's ensure compliance, Shawn explained they have difficulties actively monitoring this type of hunting activity. Shawn explained they rely on the Carmacks check stop to help provide an indication of hunting pressure and ensure compliance. Unfortunately, local compliance resulted in a higher number of minor infractions this year, mostly from non-local hunters. CO's conducted a patrol on the Yukon River mid September and didn't observe any hunting activity, Shawn explained they may have missed times in which locals noticed heavy hunting traffic.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 12th

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
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ii.	Nick	Make sure TH Hall is booked for Trapping Week and schedule planning meeting in January 2025.	<p>Done. Feb. 4 from 1-4pm (allow time for clean up)</p> <p>Feb. 5 from 8:30-2:30pm (school ends at 2:30pm on Wednesdays)</p> <p>Feb. 7 from 8:30-4pm (allow time for clean up)</p>
iii.	Council	Council to review Local Knowledge Next Steps Document.	
iv.	Council	Council to review the updated WKA layers in GeoYukon to determine if there are any additional concerns.	
v.	Nick	<p>Standing Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson. b. In the Fall of 2024, encourage councillors to snare squirrels for the 2025 RSS Trapping Week. Review Feb 21, 2024 Meeting notes in preparation of Trapping Week in 2025. 	<p>a. Ongoing.</p> <p>b. Ongoing.</p>

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

November 12th, 2024

Signatures:

Present

Dan Reynolds
Duncan Smith
Darren Bullen
Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Ali Anderson
Kyler Mather

Guests: Sebastian Jones, Paul Boyce (YG), Brandon Drost (YG)

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2024-11-12-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the November 12th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for October 16th and October 30th, 2024.

Be it resolved that the minutes for the October 16th and October 30th, 2024, DDRRC meetings be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done. Council briefly discussed the updated KWA's in GeoYukon, no concerns brought forward except the Lynx Refugia along the Klondike River (absent from GeoYukon). Dan and Sebastian confirmed the refugia is included in the draft Dawson Regional Land Use Plan.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 ECCC Grizzly Mgmt. Draft Plan Workshop – November 14th, 10:30AM. Ian is still planning on attending. Paul will review Grizzly and the Wolverine draft plan and get back to us about any information worth sharing (i.e. issues that should be flagged to ECCC). Sebastian said the Grizzly plan should not have much of an impact on the current Yukon plan, but YG will be monitoring how the Federal Government implementation nationwide.

Action Item: Paul to review the ECCC draft Grizzly and Wolverine Management Plans and get back to us about any information worth sharing (i.e. issues that should be flagged to ECCC).

- 3.1.2 Sausage Making Workshop Week with TH Wellness – Nov 18th - 22nd.** Nick and Ian to transfer quarters from Dan's walk-in to his shop to thaw on Friday.
- 3.1.3 DDRRC Wolf Snaring Workshop – Yukon Campus – Sunday Dec 8th.** Nick has finalized the workshop poster and will include it in the trapper mailout package to be discussed later in the agenda (6.2). Posters have also been delivered to the Conservation Officers Office. Nick will also be posting information about the course on Facebook but limiting it to only our Facebook page. Hoping to have 10-12 participants attending.
- 3.1.4 UFA Gathering - Kwanlin Dūn Cultural Centre - January 14th & 15th, 2025.** Mark will attend in person on behalf of the DDRRC. Nick will attend virtually.
- 3.1.5 RSS Trapping Week – Feb 3rd – 7th, 2025.** The Hall has been booked and an Expression of Interest (EOI) letter has been drafted for marten and squirrels to be used during the skinning workshops. The EOI letter will be included in the trapper mailout package (discussed in agenda item 6.2)
- 3.1.6 Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC.** Karlie Knight (TH) and Paul Boyce (YG) would like to attend an RRC meeting to discuss the agenda and moose management in general, it was decided November 27th would be the best date. A special meeting will be scheduled for this meeting.
- 3.1.7 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025.** This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public of the Fur Show date.

4. Updates

- 4.1 Community-based Fish and Wildlife Work Plan – Working Group Consideration.** Paul provided an update on progress and a tentative schedule moving forward. It is still the intention of the parties to complete the plan by the end of the fiscal year which will require a significant contribution of time from the working group (Nick and Ian representing the DDRRC).
- 4.2 Yukon University Presentation and Co-Management Podcast.** Nick let Council know he represented the DDRRC on a podcast about co-management initiatives across Canada (now becoming more common with FN's signing treaties / self government agreements). Nick will share the podcast link when available for Council. Nick also represented the DDRRC for a presentation about our role and local projects we organize at YukonU for the Environmental Monitoring cohort.

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 Vacant DDRRC Youth Councillor Position.** Council all approved Nick approaching Airha for the youth Councillor position.
- 5.2 Local Knowledge Survey – News Article and Next Steps for Short Form Survey.** Council approved the new approach and asked Nick to start developing the online survey. Mark asked that a question about years living in Dawson be included in the demographics section. Ian asked for a question to be included about hunter effort in days. All agreed 2 x \$500 Air North gift certificates are good prizes to offer participants as incentive.

Action Item: Nick to create the Local Knowledge Survey and bring survey online.

5.3 YG Letter Regarding the Sheep and Goat Control Order Under the Animal Health Act. All approved the letter as presented.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC.** Paul explained he is still waiting for the raw data to be processed for the Goldfields and Lower Stewart / White Gold moose surveys over the past 5 years. Dan asked why it is taking so long for the data to be processed, Paul explained other areas in the Yukon have taken priority. Paul will have the 2024 harvest numbers for us at the next meeting.
- 6.2 Trapper Mailout to include information on Fur Show, Wolf Snare Workshop and RSS Trapping Week – EOI for Marten and Squirrel.** Council approved the mailout prepared.
- 6.3 Introduction from new YG forester – Brandon Drost.** Brandon introduced himself and let Council know he will be in Dawson mid December so should be able to attend a meeting in person for a proper introduction. Ian asked if winter access will be maintained to the Minnie Bell / Vanderbilt this winter, Brandon said he would look into it and get back to us.

Action Item: Brandon to check if winter access will be maintained to the Minnie Bell / Vanderbilt this winter.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 27th

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
ii.	Paul	Review the ECCC draft Grizzly and Wolverine Management Plans and get back to us about any information worth sharing (i.e. issues that should be flagged to ECCC).	
iii.	Nick	Create the 2024 Local Knowledge Survey and bring survey online.	Done.
iv.	Brandon	Check if winter access will be maintained to the Minnie Bell / Vanderbilt this winter.	
v.	Nick	<p>Standing Items:</p> <p>a. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson.</p> <p>b. In the Fall of 2024, encourage councillors to snare squirrels for the 2025 RSS Trapping Week. Review Feb 21, 2024 Meeting notes in preparation of Trapping Week in 2025.</p>	<p>a. Ongoing.</p> <p>b. Ongoing.</p>

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.




Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

December 11th, 2024

Signatures:




Present

Dan Reynolds
Duncan Smith
Darren Bullen
Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser
Kyler Mather
Ali Anderson
Airha Perucho

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Guests: Sebastian Jones, Brandon Drost (YG), Nick Howitt (YG), Michelle Thompson (YG), Luke and Heather Dueling (Blackstone Outfitters)

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2024-12-11-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the December 11th, 2024, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for October 16th and October 30th, 2024.

Resolution 2024-12-11-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the November 11th, 2024, DDRRC meetings be approved. Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 TH CBFWWP 2-Day Workshop – December 19-20. Ian and Nick still plan to attend.

3.1.2 UFA Gathering - Kwanlin Dūn Cultural Centre - January 14th & 15th, 2025. Mark still able to attend.

3.1.3 Yukon North Slope Conference – January 28-30 – Whitehorse. Council would like to take a better look at the agenda to determine if anyone will put their name forward to attend. Nick to send Council more information.

Action Item: Nick to send Council more information on the Yukon North Slope Conference – January 28-30 – Whitehorse.

- 3.1.4 RSS Trapping Week – Feb 3rd – 7th, 2025.** Council briefly discussed options for crafting, more discussion on this topic should be included in an upcoming meeting. Kyler requested a schedule also be included for discussion at an upcoming meeting. Nick explained he is planning to invite TH RSS staff to our second meeting in January.
- 3.1.5 Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC.** This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public.
- 3.1.6 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025.** This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public.

4. Updates

- 4.1 Local Knowledge Survey – News Article and Next Steps for Short Form Survey.** Nick updated the Council on the ad campaign, explaining that it is live and to date 23 people have participated in the survey. Dan would like to see more questions about specific species abundance, the same as in the longform survey. Nick said these questions can be added easily. Ian asked that an email address also be added, Nick will add this question near the end of the survey as an option to receive more information about the survey and the DDRRC in general via email.

Action Item: Nick to update Local Knowledge Survey as per discussion on December 11, 2024.

- 4.2 Local Forestry Update from Brandon Drost (YG Forest Management Branch).** Brandon had updates about YESAB, explaining that Arctic Inland's proposal will soon be entering the seeking views stage of the assessment process. Dan explained the area in the proposal will be accessed through his property and will require a new temporary road which he doesn't have an issue with. Sebastian asked if the new access road will require compliance with the new Resource Roads regulation. Brandon said he would need to investigate given implementation of the new regs just happened. Brandon asked if we wanted to be added to a distribution list for updates about forestry developments in the Dawson area, Nick asked that we be added. Brandon finished by letting Nick know he will email him an update on access to winter fuelwood wood harvest areas so he can post info on Facebook for the public.

Action Item: Brandon to investigate if Arctic Inlands development (soon to be YESAB's seeking views stage) will require compliance with the new Resource Roads Regulation.

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 YG Letter Regarding the Sheep and Goat Control Order Under the Animal Health Act. Michelle Thompson (YG Animal Health Unit) to attend virtually to discuss at 7PM.** Michelle described the control order and next steps as it reaches the end of its 5-year cycle (set to expire on December 31st, 2024). A recommendation has been provided to YG ministers from the Chief Veterinarian Officer (Mary Vanderkop), Michelle is expecting an answer back from the ministers very soon. Unfortunately, at this time she cannot provide any details regarding the recommendation. Dan explained that the control order is a necessity, but it has been implemented at a great cost to Yukon sheep and goat owners, especially the local farming community. Michelle explained that the main issues arise from imports of sheep and goats, pre import testing is something YG is looking into as a support to sheep and goat owners wanting to introduce new stock. Dan raised the issue about the challenges that exist in obtaining a clean herd, there are some unknowns regarding pathogen dormancy, Dan asked if clean herds are even possible? Michelle explained again that imports (or history of) are the lead causes of infection. Michelle also explained that tests administered are not always successful, swab testing sometimes requires more than one attempt to confirm the pathogen. Duncan asked about Movi found in other species such as moose and caribou. Michelle explained that Movi does exist in other species but there are genetic differences in

the strain of Movi found in different species, there can also be genetic differences regionally. The concern is non-local strains of Movi being introduced to wild sheep and goat populations. Kyler asked if sample kits are still available to the local hunting and outfitter community and if YG is receiving samples from Dawson. The Wild Sheep Foundation provides funding to support the sampling program, and it continues to be offered, but Michelle said primarily samples are received from the Whitehorse area. Council expressed it would be worth looking into promoting more local sampling. Dan said he assumes the control order will continue in some shape or form, but he would like to know if any other options are being considered (other than the 5-year system currently being used). Michelle said there are no plans to change things drastically. Emergency response plans were briefly discussed, Michelle explained it is very difficult to develop a Yukon wide response plan given the drastically different environments Yukon sheep exist. Michelle does think there is an opportunity to discuss this on a local level with RRC's, but for now flexibility is required and at this time emergencies will be addressed case by case. Michelle ended with letting Council know Mary Vanderkop is retiring in January, but on behalf of her and the Animal Control Unit they would like to thank the DDRRC for input and involvement on this issue and look forward to continuing to work together.

- 5.2 Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC. Request from TH to have someone from the DDRRC assist with chairing the event.** TH has asked if a someone on Council would be interested in helping chair the event. Dan put his name forward but needs to look at the agenda to confirm. Nick to send Dan the agenda so he can confirm if available to help chair the event.

Action Item: Nick to send Dan the Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC agenda so he can confirm if available to help chair the event.

- 5.3 Wolf Trapping Workshop – Dec 8th – Debrief.** Dan and Nick were both in attendance. The workshop was received positively, with 9 in attendance out of the 11 that RSVP'd. Dan explained that Frank was well prepared and the demonstration of different kinds of traps was interesting. Briefly discussed was the incentive program other RRC's are offering in addition to the incentives already available to trappers via the Yukon Outfitters Association. Nick explained we are still waiting for up-to-date data from YG to determine if a wolf trapping incentive program is financially viable.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 Establishment of Regulation Change Review Committee.** Both letters were reviewed by Council. No further action required.
- 6.2 Submission of Government of Yukon's Response to Dawson Regional Land Use Plan (DRLUP).** Dan proposed we request a presentation by the parties leading up to the public engagement session planned for late January, given they will both be here and prepared to summarize key issues. Council agreed and suggested the meeting be in-camera. Council also asked Nick to send a link to the party responses (both detailed and summaries) for their review.

Action Item: Nick to request a meeting from the parties regarding their response to the DRLUP. Nick to also send Council a link for the response submissions.

Next Meeting: Wednesday January 8th, 2025

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
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ii.	Paul	Nick to send Council more information on the Yukon North Slope Conference – January 28-30 – Whitehorse.	Done
iii.	Nick	Nick to update Local Knowledge Survey as per discussion on December 11, 2024.	Done
iv.	Brandon	Brandon to investigate if Arctic Inland's development (soon to be in YESAB's seeking views stage) will require compliance with the new Resource Roads Regulation.	
v.	Nick	Nick to send Dan the Drin Jëjik Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC agenda so he can confirm if available to help chair the event.	Done
vi.	Nick	Nick to request a meeting from the parties regarding their response to the DRLUP. Nick to also send Council a link for the response submissions.	Done
vii.	Nick	<p>Standing Items:</p> <p>a. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson.</p>	a. Ongoing.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

January 8th, 2025

Signatures:

Present

Dan Reynolds
Duncan Smith
Darren Bullen
Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser
Ali Anderson
Airha Perucho

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Kyler Mather

Guests: Sebastian Jones, Brandon Drost (YG).

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2025-01-08-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the January 8th, 2025, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.

Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for December 11th, 2024.

Resolution 2025-01-08-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the December 11th, 2024, DDRRC meeting be approved. Approved by consensus.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done. Brandon Drost from the YG Forestry clarified that the new Resource Road Regulations will not impact Arctic Inland's YESAB application, as forest resource roads follow different legislation. However, permits may be required if accessing other resources from forest roads or vice versa.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 UFA Gathering - Kwanlin Dūn Cultural Centre - January 14th & 15th, 2025. Mark still able to attend.

3.1.2 Yukon North Slope Conference – January 28-30 – Whitehorse. No Councillor's will be able attend. Nick to remove from agenda. It is likely someone from TH is attending so Ali and Darren should be able to get an update and bring back info to the Council.

- 3.1.3 **RSS Trapping Week – Feb 3rd – 7th, 2025.** Nick will be scheduling a meeting later in the month and will invite TH / RSS / YG to attend so we can plan and coordinate the schedule.
- 3.1.4 **Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC.** Dan confirmed he should be able to help chair the event.
- 3.1.5 **DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025.** This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public.

4. Updates

- 4.1 **Local Knowledge Survey.** Nick updated the Council on survey submissions, to-date over 70 people have participated in the survey with 15 returning from the previous group of local knowledge experts. An issue Nick is expecting to see in the finalized data is submissions of an “average” response for animal species abundance, it appears this is the most used response so we will need to consider omitting this data point if we are unable to determine trends due to the prevalence of this answer. The survey will close at the end of January, during a February meeting Council will need to conduct a prize draw for the Air North tickets.
- 4.2 **December TH CBFWWP Workshop Local Forestry.** Nick was the only person from the working group representing the DDRRC to attend this workshop. Action items created during the workshop that the DDRRC are responsible for were included in the meeting package. In the near-term Nick is responsible for developing a survey and promoting a local art and photography contest. The Council need to contribute 5 year “achievable” goals to the plan. Some of the goals Nick brought forward were developing more of an online presence (website creation), continuing and enhancing training and educational programming and work towards improving ungulate management with partners. Nick explained we need to consider more goals to contribute to the plan. A community engagement session was scheduled before the fur show on Thursday March 13th. The CBFWWP is to be finalized this summer, the working group is hopeful they will have a draft version ready for review in May. Nick is planning to attend the next in-person workshop on March 10th in Whitehorse (the majority of the working group reside in Whitehorse, i.e. the planning consultants, DFO, ECCC, YG Environment planning lead). Nick asked Council for approval to travel and attend in-person. Council approved Nick attending.
- 4.3 **Road Upgrades to prevent Moose Collisions.** Nick relayed information sent from CO Shawn Hughes. Shawn recently met with YG HPW engineers and YG ENV biologists about the moose collisions around the Hunker Road and Klondike Highway intersection. There are plans in the works to raise the grade of the highway as much as 2m between km 700-702 which is roughly from hunker corner to Fisherville. They also plan on replacing the 2 culverts with bridges. This work is being done to mitigate flooding issues not because of wildlife issues. However, everyone agreed that now is the time to address the collision issue as well. It sounds like lighting on poles are easy and relatively cheap to install and within their budget scope. They discussed installing new creative signage that stand out as different from the typical moose signs. They also discussed the idea of radar and animal sensing lighting. They want to try other options first and leave the radar option for a later possibility. If they raise the roadbed 2m, the slope will be feathered gradually to improve sightlines. They also said they could seed the slope with grass which outcompetes willow so visibility should be improved by that also. They agreed that more brushing could/should be done and they’re making calls today to make sure someone stays on top of that. They will straighten the corners *slightly* but said they are limited in that capacity due to property lines. In 2025 they will be working on the design with construction planned for 2026. Council asked Nick to respond to Shawn and request we be part of the planning / design phase of the project.

Action Item: Nick to respond to CO Shawn and request we be part of the planning / design phase of the Klondike Highway construction project.

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 Dawson Regional Land Use Plan (DRLUP) - January Community and Plan Partner Engagement.** Nick has confirmed a time and date for the parties (YG and TH) and Commission to provide a summary of the responses to the draft DRLUP and discuss next steps. The meeting will take place the day before the planned community engagement on January 21st from 5-7PM.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 YG Resource Road Regulations.** Nick provided the application primer available on the YG website. Council briefly discussed some of the implications of the new regulations (i.e. increased liability for permit holders and the potential for joint ownership of roads and the challenges that could arise from multiple parties managing a single road). The conversation ended with the understanding that the new regulations are a work in progress and will be tested over time.

Next Meetings: Special Meeting with Land Use Plan Parties / Commission – January 21st @ 5PM

Special Meeting with TH / YG Env re Trapping Week – January 29th from 6-9PM

Regular Meeting – February 12th from 6-9PM

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
ii.	Nick	Respond to CO Shawn and request we be part of the planning / design phase of the Klondike Highway construction project.	Done
iii.	Nick	Standing Items: a. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson.	a. Ongoing.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

February 12th, 2025

Signatures:

Present

Duncan Smith
Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser
Dan Reynolds
Airha Perucho

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Kyler Mather
Ali Anderson
Darren Bullen

Guests: Sebastian Jones.

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2025-02-12-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the February 12th, 2025, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.

Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for January 8th, 2025.

Resolution 2025-02-12-02

Be it resolved that the minutes for the January 8th, 2025, DDRRC meeting be approved. Approved by consensus.

2.2 **Review Action Items.** Done. Dan still working on submitting an invoice for walk-in freezer expenses.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 **Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC.** Dan confirmed he will be able to help chair the event. Dan asked Nick to send him the agenda and forward him any information that comes available.

Action Item: Keep Dan in the loop re Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC. Send him the agenda.

3.1.2 **CFWWP Community Engagement – March 13th, 2025.** Nick explained this will be the only in-person community engagement planned so attendance is recommended. It is also expected that at the Fur Show we will promote the project and encourage people to participate in the survey and call for artwork.

3.1.3 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025. This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public.

4. Updates

- 4.1 CBFWWP Survey and Calls for Artwork.** The Community Based Fish and Wildlife Workplan (CBFWWP) survey and call for artwork will be online in the coming days. Nick asked if it was OK to have Airha sign an employment contract for \$20/hr to assist with this effort in addition to her helping us with the Fur Show, compensated the same as what was provided for the salmon restoration project. Council approved. Nick will work with Airha on getting the school involved, her first job will be to create a poster. Airha will include in the poster a few details about the project, how students can contribute to it by submitting artwork of Dawson area fish and wildlife. Students who submit artwork will be entered into a draw for a \$50 gift certificate at the Dominion (Shell) Gas Station.
- 4.2 UFA Gathering - Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre - January 14-15, 2025.** Mark provided a full recap of the two-day event. It was very well attended and at times controversial. Throughout most of the breakout sessions and presentations there was focus on the ongoing challenges the boards and committees experience implementing the UFA. He pointed out that many bureaucrats and politicians attending the gathering appeared to show a lack understanding of the UFA and its chapters. Mark also mentioned there was a lot of discussion related to increasing youth involvement and capacity building, which is hindered by government control of funding, and the importance of co-management and the need for more indigenous representation within the Yukon Government and on boards and committees. The meeting also touched on the need for separate funding for training, the possibility (and challenges) of co-management under the funding agreements, and the need for a loop to ensure the government (YG and Canada) understands the needs of the boards and committees and responds accordingly. The question of why YG is administering the funding agreements came up several times, many of the boards and committees discussed the challenges they have had with YG administering the funding agreements and approving member appointments. Other topics discussed were governance, operational challenges, barriers, training and development challenges, engagement challenges, etc. The attendees suggested improvements such as adding UFA education into school curriculums, educating new government employees, etc. Next steps are developing an implementation plan and funding review with the assistance of an already establishment technical group to work alongside YG and Canada. There is a potential for funding increases and hopefully multi-year funding agreements. The idea of setting up another committee to manage the UFA boards and committees was brought up and discussed but met with skepticism.

- 4.3 Casino Mine – TH Citizens Engagement.** Darren was not in attendance so unable to provide and update.

5. Old Business.

- 5.1 Local Knowledge Survey (Air North Ticket Draw).** Paul Issac and Doug Fraser won the draw prizes, Nick will contact them ASAP and post something on Facebook.
- 5.2 2025 RSS Trapping Week De-brief.** Another successful year in the books. Some feedback for next year from teachers was for the younger grades (K-2) we need to find time during the in-class talks to allow them a break, perhaps give them an assignment to refocus their attention on something new. Council considered the idea of alternating from year to year between crafting workshops and skinning workshops, to make better use of the furs we have started to accumulate. Council thought this would be a good idea. Council also discussed the issue of swag distribution, with some kids feeling they didn't receive much, and the idea of not relying solely on swag to keep the kids engaged.
- 5.3 Community Trapping Initiatives Discussion with Guests.** Tabled due to absences.

- 5.4 **Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC (Nick has LKS data to share that could be added to the agenda).** It was decided that we need to spend more time reviewing and analyzing the recent Local Knowledge Survey data before sharing with the public.

6. New Business.

- 6.1 **Project 2024-0156 - Placer Mine - Sestak Creek and Tributaries.** Council approved the draft letter / comment provided for review.

Action Item: Send YESAB letter re Project 2024-0156 - Placer Mine - Sestak Creek and Tributaries.

- 6.2 **Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.** Council approved the draft letter / comment provided for review.

Action Item: Send YESAB letter re Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.

- 6.3 **February PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting.** Nick explained that he did not get an invitation to attend this meeting and will follow up to find out what happened. Sebastain provided a quick recap of the meetings and what was discussed. Sebastian shared that the population is likely around 200,000, well into the green zone, and no additional restrictions on hunting are expected.

Action Item: Follow-up with the PCMB Parties to find out why we were not invited to the February PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting.

- 6.4 **Fortymile Caribou Letter from YG.** Council discussed the upcoming coalition meeting in Fairbanks at the end of the month, with only one representative from the Yukon expected to attend. There was some confusion over the ambiguity of the invitation and the need for clarification on the role of the representative. Council recommended that Nick reach out to Mike Suitor for further information and later determine who would be chosen as the DDRRC representative (if permitted to attend).

Action Item: Follow-up with the Mike Suitor regarding the February Coalition Meeting, ask for clarity on who should / can attend and relay information back to Council via email.

- 6.5 **YFWMB letter to Teslin RRC - Regulation Change Review Committee Membership.** Letter added to package to keep Council and public informed about the issue. No follow up required.

Next Meeting: March 10th, 2025

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Dan to send Nick an invoice for freezer walk-in electricity / storage costs.	
ii.	Nick	Keep Dan in the loop re Drin Jëjik Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC. Send him the agenda.	Done
iii.	Nick	Send YESAB letter re Project 2024-0156 - Placer Mine - Sestak Creek and Tributaries.	Done
iv.	Nick	Send YESAB letter re Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.	Done
v.	Nick	Follow-up with the PCMB Parties to find out why we were not invited to the February PCMB Annual Harvest Meeting.	Done

vi.	Nick	Follow-up with the Mike Sutor regarding the February Coalition Meeting, ask for clarity on who should / can attend and relay information back to Council via email.	Done
vii.	Nick	Standing Items: a. Nick to keep in touch with Jim Welsh about providing more hunter training workshops here in Dawson.	a. Ongoing.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

March 12th, 2025

Signatures:

Present

Mark Wierda
Ian Fraser
Dan Reynolds
Airha Perucho
Ali Anderson
Darren Bullen

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Kyler Mather
Duncan Smith

Guests: Sebastian Jones, Sylvia Frisch, Kim Melton, Brandon Drost

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2025-03-12-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the March 12th, 2025, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.

Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for January 8th, 2025.

Resolution 2025-03-12-02

Tabled, not enough Councillors present to approve.

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

- 3.1.1 CFWWP Community Engagement – March 13th, 2025.** Nick emphasized the importance of Council contributing to the engagement session planned for March 13th. The consultation will involve themed tables where the public can provide feedback. Ali, Mark, Dan and Darren can attend. Nick to call Dan before he attends the evening session to brief him on what to expect. Nick to approach Ryan to request meeting with the Council to discuss the actions table. Nick explained that the technical group assembled and the process in which actions were reviewed and updated was not conducive to maximizing input from the Council. Providing feedback using collaborative documents and Teams has never been used by Council, in person or virtual meetings are generally the way in which we contribute to projects like this. Sebastian expressed frustration that the process created to draft the document is not working for the DDRRC. Nick explained we have only been able to meet twice since

the action items table was drafted and we were very busy with other priorities (RSS trapping week and the Fur Show), it is worth considering a request to meet with TH / YG and the facilitators to discuss the actions to provide input. Council agreed with Nick's suggestion.

Action Item: Nick to approach Ryan (CFWWP facilitator consultant) to request a special meeting with the Council to discuss the actions table.

Action Item: Call Dan before he attends the CFWWP evening session to brief him on what to expect.

3.1.2 DDRRC Fur Show – March 15th, 2025. This item added to the agenda as a placeholder to remind Council and the public.

3.1.3 UFAIP Board/Committee Funding Renewal Engagement – March 20th, 2025, 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Nick to attend virtually.

4. Updates

4.1 CFWWP Survey and Calls for Artwork. Nick reminded the Council that the survey and call for artwork is now live online and open until mid April.

5. Old Business.

5.1 Casino Mine – TH Citizens Engagement – Jan 28th – De-Brief. Darren provided a brief update. Sebastian explained how Casino will be offsetting impact on the area by improving an adjacent salmon spawning location. Nick let Council know Casino has requested another meeting to provide some updated information as well as updated baseline data. Council decided with a possible election and new developments over the summer it would make more sense to get an update from Casino when they convene for meetings again in October.

Action Item: Reply to Casino re update and request meeting for the fall of 2025.

5.2 Drin Jëjik | Moose Day – Feb 27th – DZCC – De-brief. Dan explained he was ill prepared and busy with land use planning commission meetings so felt he didn't do a very good job representing Council. He was thankful TH and YG (Karlie Knight, Paul Boyce and Shawn Hughes) had prepared some information to share. Only about two people were in attendance from the public, all other participants were representing different governments and/or boards or councils. Nick expressed frustration that the DDRRC agreed to two agenda items, one being information from our local knowledge survey which we decided not to share until we were able to fully analyze the data, the second being a slide on ungulate management tools. We didn't get a summary of ungulate management tools from YG or the YFWMB as promised. Nick explained that at some point agenda items for the DDRRC changed and were assigned to us very close to the date of the event (and while he was away), which contributed to Dan not being prepared.

5.3 Fortymile Caribou Coalition Meeting - Fairbanks, AK – Feb 27/28 – De-Brief. Mark attended but had difficulties hearing and was unable to follow along for much of what was being discussed. The important information he was able to share is that the herd is in critical condition with a population of 30,000 and Alaska is considering commencing a predator management program. Sebastian agreed with Mark that it was very difficult to follow the conversation and the YFWMB will be requesting a follow-up meeting in April with all Yukon attendees to discuss the meeting and next steps.

6. New Business.

6.1 Sylvia Frisch – Discuss Non-Government Community Meeting re Victoria Gold Heap Leach Slide - Week of April 6th-10th. Sylvia discussed the ongoing investigation and containment efforts at Victoria Golds' Eagle Mine. She is planning to organize a community meeting and seeking advice from the RRC on how to proceed. The DDRRC recommended having a facilitator, creating an agenda, and ensuring the presence of an expert who can provide accurate information. Sylvia agreed to secure a facilitator and expert speaker and develop a structured agenda to keep the meeting focused and informative. Sylvia asked if the RRC knew of any moose meat that could be donated for the event, Dan said he would follow up with Spencer

and get back to Sylvia with an update. Nick said he will send Sylvia all the required forms from Environmental Health to serve wild game at a public event.

Action Item: Dan to follow up with Spencer and get back to Sylvia with an update about moose meat. Nick to send Sylvia all the required forms from Environmental Health to serve wild game at a public event.

6.2 YG Forester Update with Brandon Drost

6.2.1 License renewal notification available for review (2024APP090). Brandon confirmed the renewal was for a company operating in the Black Creek area (Company: Crazy Wood). Council had no concerns.

6.2.2 Draft Dempster THP moved to Evaluation stage. A change in scope resulted in this project going back to YESAB's seeking views stage (reasoning: not using an existing trail, they are upgrading the trail). This is an application for a timber harvest plan (not a permit), submitted by Yukon Wood Products Association in collaboration with Arctic Inland. Brandon clarified that this is still in the assessment stage before permitting. Dan will follow-up on some personal concerns related to use of his private road.

6.2.3 No plans to plow roads again, but open to hearing if there is a need. Regarding road plowing, Brandon explained there are no plans for the rest of the season, but they are open to addressing concerns. No concerns brought forward.

6.3 Project 2024-0174 - Placer Mine - All Gold Creek and Tributaries. Brandon discussed the potential overlap between mining claims and personal woodcutting areas, noting he will provide comments specific to this project regarding use of timber and accommodating personal woodcutting.

6.4 Project 2024-0121 - N. Klondike Hwy (km 647 – km 712). Nick explained this project could impact the staging area for the salmon restoration project, but will address this issue on-site if the project is active at the same time as planned activities (Nick can park and access the site from different locations if needed)

Next Meeting: March 26th, 2025

Action Items:

i.	Dan	Nick to approach Ryan (CFWWP facilitator consultant) to request a special meeting with the Council to discuss the actions table.	Done. Special Meeting Scheduled for March 26 th
ii.	Nick	Call Dan before he attends the CFWWP evening session to brief him on what to expect.	Done
iii.	Nick	Reply to Casino re update and request meeting for the fall of 2025.	Done
iv.	Nick / Dan	Dan to follow up with Spencer and get back to Sylvia with an update about moose meat. Nick to send Sylvia all the required forms from Environmental Health to serve wild game at a public event.	Done

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.



Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

April 9th, 2025

Signatures:

Present

Mark Wierda
Kyler Mather
Ali Anderson
Darren Bullen

Absent

George McLeod

Regrets

Dan Reynolds
Duncan Smith
Ian Fraser

Guests: Heather Dueling, Matt McHugh, Paul Boyce

Recorder: Nick Wozniewski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt

Resolution 2025-03-12-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the April 9th, 2025, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.

Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for February 12th and March 12th, 2025.

Tabled, not enough Councillors present to approve.

Action Item: Nick to send Council for approval the meeting minutes for February 12th and March 12th, 2025

2.2 Review Action Items. Done.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 YFWMB RRC Chairs Meeting – April 15th in Whitehorse. CFWWP Community Engagement – March 13th, 2025. Unfortunately, no Councillors can attend in person, Nick will attend.

3.1.2 Caribou biologist update with Mike Suitor – April 23rd. Nick explained that with the many recent developments for both barren-ground herds (Fortymile and Porcupine) it would be beneficial to get an update from Mike before we take our summer break from regular scheduled meetings.

4. Updates

4.1 CBFWWP Survey and Calls for Artwork. Nick again reminded Council that the survey and call for artwork is will close on April 15th.

5. Old Business

- 5.1 UFAIP Board/Committee Funding Renewal Engagement – March 20th.** Nick attended this meeting virtually; a full meeting summary will be provided by CYFN and can be shared with Council when available.
- 5.2 Yukon River Panel – Dawson Gathering – April 7th to 10th.** Nick provided a summary of the agenda and explained that he attended a poster night on April 7th to showcase the DDRRC Salmon Restoration Project and the short film about the project was included in a well attended event at the Dänojà Zho Cultural Centre. Nick heard that Alaska recently received a directive from the Trump administration to discontinue funding support for the panel, this would mean all R&E projects are in jeopardy and panel activities could be put on hold. Nick also had an update regarding Sylvia Frisch, she will not be holding a public meeting re her experience with the Vic Gold Eagle Mine failure and instead will be providing a public testimony as part of the river panel meetings open to the public on April 9th at 4:15pm.

6. New Business

- 6.1 YFWMB Notice of the Ungulate Working Group's Public Engagement.** Council reviewed the documents and asked Nick to follow up with the YFWMB to schedule a meeting to discuss next steps, likely a special meeting will be required over the summer.

Action Item: Contact the YFWMB to schedule a meeting to discuss public engagement with the Ungulate Working Group.

- 6.2 Schedule late April Meeting and last meeting in May before summer break.** It was decided that our next meeting will taken place on April 23rd followed by our final meeting at the Eldo on May 14th, hopefully the river will be open so Duncan will be able to attend.

- 6.3 YG Wolf Incentive Program for Dawson Trappers.** Paul explained that YG will provide an incentive of \$100 per wolf carcass for the 2025/26 trapping season, carcasses must be delivered in reasonable condition. On average about 25-30 wolves are trapped in the region every season so Paul has budgeted an incentive for 50 wolves. Paul asked if the DDRRC would help raise awareness and get the word out to trappers. Council asked Nick to include this as a standing item for consideration in the fall when the timing is more appropriate. Kyler suggested that the Conservation Officers Office provide info about this incentive program when administering licenses in the fall.

Action Item: YG and YOA Wolf Trapping Incentive Programs - Help raise awareness and get the word out to trappers.

Next Meeting: April 23rd, 2025

Action Items:

i.	Nick	Send Council for approval the meeting minutes for February 12th and March 12th, 2025	Awaiting Dan's Return
ii.	Nick	Contact the YFWMB to schedule a meeting to discuss public engagement with the Ungulate Working Group	
iii.	Standing Items	1. YG and YOA Wolf Trapping Incentive Programs - Help raise awareness and get the word out to trappers	

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.


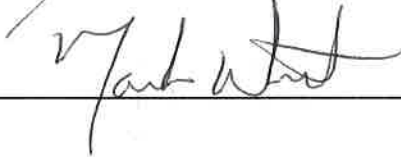


Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Minutes - Regular Public Meeting

April 23rd, 2025

Signatures:

Present

Mark Wierda
Kyler Mather
Dan Reynolds
Duncan Smith
Ian Fraser

Absent

Regrets

Ali Anderson
Darren Bullen

Guests: Heather Dueling, Karlie Knight, Paul Boyce, Sebastian Jones, Kim Melton, Kirsten Reid, Toshibaa Govindaraj

Recorder: Nick Wozniowski

1. Agenda

1.1 Review and Adopt Resolution 2025-04-23-01

Be it resolved that the agenda for the April 23rd, 2025, Public DDRRC meeting be approved.
Approved by consensus.

2. Minutes

2.1 Review and Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for February 12th and March 12th and April 9th, 2025.

Tabled, not enough Councillors present to approve.

Action Item: Nick to send Council for approval the meeting minutes for February 12th, March 12th and April 9th, 2025.

2.2 Review Action Items. Nick asked Council when they would prefer to meet with the YFWMB to discuss next steps for the Ungulate Management Working Group, Council recommended May 12th, 2025.

3. Housekeeping

3.1 Portfolios / Upcoming Meetings

3.1.1 CBFWWP Release / Celebration – June 2025 (Date TBD). Nick let the Council know the CBFWWP document release date is currently scheduled for June. Karlie explained this may change and will be discussed later in the agenda (item 6.2).

4. Updates

4.1 2024/25 Fiscal Year Audit. BDO has been retained as the auditor, Nick will work with them to complete the audit in July.

5. Old Business

- 5.1 **YFWMB RRC Chairs Meeting – April 15th in Whitehorse.** Nick attended this meeting virtually and discussed the agenda and a full meeting summary will be provided by YFWMB and can be shared with Council when available.

6. **New Business**

- 6.1 **Caribou biologist update with Mike Suitor @ 7PM.** Mike provided an update on the Fortymile Caribou Herd (FMCH) and the Porcupine Caribou Herd (PCM). Mike presented an animation of the caribou herd's movement over the years, highlighting the peak in 2017 and the subsequent decline. He also discussed the impact of winter conditions and habitat changes on the herd's survival and growth. Mike mentioned that the herd's migration has in recent years shifted further east, which has affected the availability of the herd for harvest here in the Yukon. Mike also discussed the decline in lichen abundance and the increase in shrubs, which could be affecting the caribou's foraging behaviors and overall health. Mike mentioned that the Alaskan side of the herd has been intensively managed, with a focus on predator control, but the effectiveness of this approach is still debated. He also discussed the potential impact of political changes on the management of the herd. The conversation ended with a discussion on the potential impact of insect harassment on caribou, with Mike explaining that insect harassment is trending upwards. Mike is especially concerned about an increase of warble flies and how an increase could be impacting herd health. Mike went on to explain the ongoing work with the FMCH harvest coalition on a harvest management plan and the need to correct mischaracterizations about allocation percentages between Canada and the US/Alaska. He also discussed potential changes to hunting regulations to increase harvest rates in the Yukon. Regarding the Porcupine herd, Mike reported that recent population estimates have been challenging due to changing migration patterns, but monitoring data suggests the herd is likely declining and now below 200,000 caribou. The Porcupine Caribou Management Board is currently considering recommendations and communications strategies in response to this trend.
- 6.2 **CBFWWP Draft Review.** Nick explained the draft CBFWWP document text is currently up for review by the technical working group, Nick has provided comments on behalf of the DDRRC and had just one question to bring back to Council for consideration. Nick asked if Council were OK with holding thematic species events one day each year annually on an as needed basis (i.e. Drin Zhur, Drin Tr'ojà' that explain wolves' role in the ecosystem including predator-prey relationships, human harvest, etc.). Council all agreed this would be a good way to engage with the community on a regular basis as opposed to the current open house approach, Council asked that TH and YG also be included as collaborators for this action item with the DDRRC taking the lead. Karlie and Paul expressed concern with regards to the completeness of the current draft and the need for more time to develop the draft. It is likely the expected date of completion will be delayed until July to improve the contextual/preamble sections of the plan, allow for TH's heritage department to review to include Han language / place names and allow for at least one additional engagement session to get the draft plan in front of community members. Additional engagement could take many forms, Ian suggested a mail out and Council agreed communicating appropriate door prizes (e.g chain saws) before the engagement contributes significantly to success.
- 6.3 **Project 2024-0127 - Placer Mine - Indian River at Montana Creek.** This project was discussed with guests providing some recommendations for how DDRRC could draft a comment, specifically assessing whether the proponent has submitted an adequate reclamation plan and the issue of this project being the first mining operation in pristine wetlands in that area. Nick agreed to draft a comment before the deadline.
- Action Item:** Draft comment for YESAB Project 2024-0127 - Placer Mine - Indian River at Montana Creek.
- 6.4 **Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.** Concerns were raised about the project location within the FMCH range, the issue of nonconformity with the recommended DRLUP, the lack of specificity

in the proponents' wildlife management plan, and the potential impacts related to year-round access. Nick agreed to draft a comment before the deadline.

Action Item: Draft comment for YESAB Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2025

Action Items:

i.	Nick	Send Council for approval the meeting minutes for February 12 th , March 12 th , April 9 th , 2025	Done.
ii.	Nick	Contact the YFWMB to schedule a meeting to discuss public engagement with the Ungulate Working Group	Done. Scheduled for May 22.
iii.	Nick	Draft comment for YESAB Project 2024-0127 - Placer Mine - Indian River at Montana Creek.	Done. Decided to monitor instead, we have been added to the notification list.
iv.	Nick	Draft comment for YESAB Project 2024-0052 - Quartz Exploration – Sixtymile.	Done.
v.	Standing Items	1. YG and YOA Wolf Trapping Incentive Programs - Help raise awareness and get the word out to trappers	

Meeting Adjourned: 08:00 p.m.