



2012 Yukon North Slope Conference

Pathways to Arctic Innovation

Arctic Wildlife Conservation and Management -
Lessons Learned and Future Challenges

October 2-4, Whitehorse, Yukon

August 1, 2012

Dear Invitee:

The 2012 Yukon North Slope Conference will be held from October 2-4, 2012 at the Westmark Whitehorse. I am delighted to accept the invitation to Chair the upcoming Conference, and on behalf of the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), the Inuvialuit Game Council and the Yukon Government I am pleased to invite you to participate.

The purpose of the Conference is to promote public discussion among aboriginal people, governments and the general public and private sectors with respect to management for the Yukon North Slope. Environment Yukon is responsible for hosting this Conference, which is held every three years.

The theme of the 2012 Conference is ***“Pathways to Arctic Innovation –Arctic Wildlife Conservation & Co-Management - Lessons Learned and Future Challenges”***. This theme is especially significant after the passage of more than 35 years since the signing of the first modern day land claim agreement in Arctic Canada and the introduction of an approach to wildlife conservation and management that is referred to today as “co-management.”

In this context, the focus of the conference is on the sharing of knowledge and experience from jurisdictions and organizations across the North, with a special focus on Arctic Canada.

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Based on this experience and the lessons learned, aboriginal organizations and authorities, wildlife management and environmental impact review boards, and governments from across the North will have an opportunity to:

- discuss what major challenges they face in wildlife conservation and management,
- how these challenges affect and are affected by aboriginal knowledge, resource use and rights, and
- how co-management can contribute to sustainability-based resource development.

Special attention will be paid to how these challenges could be met and what innovations could be applied. All participants, wherever they live in northern Canada, should leave the conference with a strong sense of the “state of the art” of co-management, how it is evolving, and what it could be.

A registration link and information about the conference is available on the following website, and a draft agenda will be posted soon at <http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/ynsc>.

If you plan to attend the 2012 North Slope Conference, you must register first. Use the on-line registration service <https://northslope.leafsolutions.ca/>. If you are unable to register online or require assistance, please phone (867) 633-5269. Please refer to the Conference website for more information as we finalize the agenda and guest speakers.

On behalf of Environment Yukon and the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope), I am pleased to invite you to participate and look forward to meeting you in Whitehorse.



Bob Bell, Chair
2012 Yukon North Slope Conference