



December 21, 2021

Carl Sidney, Chair
Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board
Box 31104, Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 5P7

Dear Mr. Sidney:

Re: ATAC Road Agreement

Thank you for your November 22, 2021 letter regarding the ATAC Road Agreement (the Agreement) and the Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board's (the Board) role in this Agreement. You raised a number of points that I would like to address.

You expressed concerns of the Yukon Land Use Planning Council and the Board regarding this process being outside of the Umbrella Final Agreement (UFA) Chapter 11 Regional Land Use Planning process. While various processes were considered, a party to party land-use planning process was chosen for the Beaver River watershed by both the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Government of Yukon for the following reasons:

- The plan is strategic in nature and is focused on addressing issues arising from a proposed new access road in a largely remote and wilderness area;
- The Beaver River watershed is a discrete area that is substantially smaller than the planning regions envisioned by Chapter 11 and the Yukon Land Use Planning Council; and
- The information and analysis generated for the Beaver River plan and subsequent documents outlined in the Agreement will contribute and inform a future regional land-use plan, which would include the Beaver River watershed.

As reflected in an outcome from the Yukon Forum, the First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun and the Government of Yukon agree that there are various possible approaches to planning and that planning can occur at different times and in different forms. This in no way lessens our support for regional land-use planning under Chapter 11, and we envision the day when the Beaver River watershed will be encompassed in a Chapter 11 regional land-use plan.

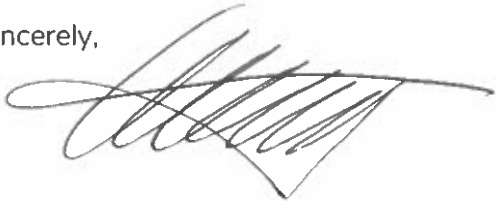
Regarding the inclusion of the Mayo District Renewable Resources Council (MDRRC) and the Board in this work, I acknowledge the mandates of both as referenced in Chapter 16 of the UFA. A significant concern raised about the potential impact of the proposed access road is the impact on moose populations in the

Carl Sidney
Page 2

Area. The MDRRC has been leading work to address the concerns about declining moose populations in this area, and as such, their involvement in the Beaver River planning process aligns with that focus. I appreciate your position that future agreements of this nature should more appropriately reflect the role of the RRC, instead of the Board, and will ensure that this perspective is carried forward.

The planning committee is active and will be in touch to provide an update on work completed and the next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nils Clarke', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nils Clarke
Minister of Environment

Cc. John Streicker, Minister of Energy Mines and Resources
Barb Shannon, Executive Secretariat, Mayo District Renewable Resources Council
Simon Mervyn, Chief of First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
Ron Cruikshank, Director, Yukon Land Use Planning Council