



**AEM – HTO MEETING - AMARUQ PROJECT  
APRIL 7, 2015  
BAKER LAKE**

JAMIE KATALUK – AEM Environment  
CHARLIE TAUTUAJUK - AEM Senior Coordinator, Community Affairs  
EIGHT HTO BOARD MEMBERS  
TWO GUESTS FROM BAKER LAKE WILDLIFE OFFICE

07:45 Hours;

Jamie Kataluk conducted the presentation in Inuktitut to the board members and guests at the Baker Lake Igloo hotel conference room.

There were some questions during the course of the presentation and as the presentation was conducted and continued, most of the questions were already on the presentation and to their satisfaction.

- 1) One of the board members had asked if there is going to be a fish out program in place to get the amaruq project underway.
  - A) Jamie advised this process of research is ongoing and the members will be advised one way or the other as the process would not be any different as to what was done to Meadowbank mine site.
- 2) One of the elder members James stated:

“I hope the company AEM will look after this area (Amaruq) well as I grew up in this area and my family history is there. The water is very fresh with plenty of fish in the lakes and the land itself has good vegetation as well. For me personally I feel it is unfortunate that there is mining in the area but it is taking place and I just want to ensure it is well looked after. Just my thoughts”
- 3) Jamie Seeteenaq HTO stated that although it is mentioned and documented that the Elders have been informed and the people that lived in the area have been provided with information and helped assisting on the map, I hope that the elders will be updated as this project progresses.
  - A) The answer to that was that since the elders group and people from the area where the amaruq project is, all the names on parts of the land were pointed out by the elders in December. This information and should any new information arise, information and progress made has been well documented and will continue to be as the exploration phase continues.
- 4) Thomas HTO member stated that on the presentation there is a part where the snowmobile crossing for people that will travel to and from Gjoa Haven, it is imperative that the road will have good access for crossing. A lot of the area of the AWPR road has large rocks and it is very difficult to cross, not only for the hunters but for caribou and other wildlife as well. I believe that some of the parts of the crossing on the AWPR should be considered as well to be smoothed out. Some of the areas that can be considered are in the areas of white hills lake where a lot of people like to cross on the AWPR.



Wildlife Officer pointed out that it would be important to have large signs that will be clearly visible for the snowmobilers to see where the crossing is located for safety reasons.

- 5) Elder HTO member James stated that the AWPR road continues to be very dusty during the summer months and I know that this has been brought for to AEM on different meetings and it does not seem to change year after year. This is also a concern for the road going into Amaruq project as well and as I mentioned earlier, the area where the amarug project is has good soil, fresh waters and good fishing. I hope that the dust can be looked at soon.
  - Jamie Kataluk stated that during the summer months, there were water trucks that has mixture with salt into the water used to keep the dust down but that would not last long while the weather was quite warm. He stated that he would be bringing this up as one of the topics as well.
- 6) Thomas with HTO stated that it is very good to have the representatives from AEM here today and be able to talk in our own language and look at ways of bridging the gaps. I also look forward to being able to meet more on a regular basis and do reports more regularly so we can ensure any issues that there may be required for follow-up are done in a timely manner. There is one thing though that I am not satisfied with and not happy about is during the caribou migrations the lack of presence from the environment department concerns me. Last year for example, having access to the road as well as monitoring the road via portable radios, there were roughly 400,000 caribou right close to the road and it had taken three days before the road was closed. What I would like to see and this is just a suggestion, is to have Inuit from baker lake to be able to assist on the monitoring of the roads during the migrations and when the number of caribou rises to help the company to document and let the community know what meadowbank is doing to make efforts to monitor caribou and other wildlife.
- 7) Jamie with HTO pointed out and stated there is a regulation that the company must follow when the migrating herd of caribou are near and crossing the roads that the road has to be closed. This needs to be monitored better and improvement into this regulation is required.
- 8) Elder James HTO stated that it is not many times during the course of the year the road needs to be closed as it is only during certain times of the months this concern and observation or monitoring of the is required, certainly not year round. I as a resident of baker lake gave you information on that and provide predictions when this will take place.
- 9) Jamie with HTO stated that meetings need to be done on a quarterly basis and it is time to bring them onto the table and ensure this is going to take place.

Charlie – We are currently working on a schedule for the year with Jamie from the environment department and myself to set them up with HTO. We are working on efforts to ensure more information sharing takes place between AEM and HTO.
- 10) Mikey with HTO stated that it would be nice as HTO Board members to be able to tour the meadowbank mine site as well as the Amaruq project. I'm not talking about just sitting down and look at the pits and camp site but more so the environment and the working areas of the site to ensure that it is clean, ensure the protection of the environment is looked at. I had worked at the Meadowbank Mine site before and quite often as employees we would be told,



“time to clean up our work sites, we have people coming and all areas of the environment and working areas have to look clean” I would like to have our HTO group tour at random and unannounced to all of the mine site and see how the mine is on a day to day basis.

- 11) I along with most of the HTO members have history and know the land where Meadowbank and Amaruq are located, what the names of the lakes and land are in our culture. It would be nice to be included on the process and be shown what has been done, what the working sites look like and the plans into the future.
- 12) The HTO groups thanked the presence of Jamie and Charlie into the meeting and provide information on the amaruq project as well as some current information within the mine site and that is very welcomed.

The overall senses was good and we will ensure the communications between Meadowbank and Baker Lake HTO continue to progress.