

**Rabesca's Resources Ltd. Final Summation
to
Wek'eezhii Renewable Resource Board
Public Hearing on the Bathurst Caribou Herd's Population Decline
August 5, 2010**



The rapid disappearance of animal and plant species was ranked as one of the planet's greatest environmental issues at the start of the 21st century. It surpasses pollution, global warming and the thinning of the ozone layer according to the survey of 400 scientists commissioned by New York's American Museum of Natural History. Nealy all attributed the losses to human activity especially the destruction of plant and animal habitat. The obstruction of migration routes used by land animals such as roads, human population growth, over hunting and other man made barriers can critically disrupt animal species.

70% of plants are endangered
35% of freshwater fish are endangered
20% of mammals are endangered

Ocean species are also endangered and other changes are being observed.

- More sea turtles are being killed in drift nets than are being born.
- Sharks are diminishing in ever greater numbers.
- Record numbers, never seen before, of Jellyfish are dying on the beaches of Scotland believed to be a result of the warming waters of the ocean.
- 250% more fish are being caught than oceans can produce in a sustainable manner.
- Fish stocks have collapsed by 30% over the last 20 years.
- Eye witnesses from our own region have told us that arctic glaciers are melting faster each year.
- Unusual tropical plant species natural to the Amazon are now seen growing in the North Sea.

Many scientists believe that the rate of loss is greater now than at any time in history.

The human race has consumed more in the last 50 years than in the preceding 1,000,000 years. Earth's people are consuming at an unsustainable rate around the planet.

Loss of Mother Earth's habitat, animals and fish are accelerating at a pace that goes beyond the scenarios and models scientists have been using according to experts of United Nations Environmental Programs.

Environmental degradation occurs as the flow of goods, services, people, technologies and workers expand even to our more isolated regions.

We are all torn between the way things are now and how they have been. We have been blessed to have experienced such an abundance of nature's gifts. However, we are now faced with the loss of a species so precious to us here in the north..... caribou. The conflict exists between short term personal gain and the long term survival of our own well being.

Reducing consumption, efficient use of resources and reducing waste now are among our greatest challenges.



We have the choice. It is in our hands.

How will we choose?

Rabesca's Resources position regarding the protection of the Bathurst Caribou herd remains the same as stated in our original presentation, only in ever **greater urgency**. With the determination to move forward, communicate, organize, mobilize and implement the protective measures recommended.

We will work together to save caribou! And, may we come together to save ourselves. These are sacred times. Let us act in a sacred way.

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We will end with a prayer once again.

Bless Mother Earth, bless the Caribou, bless us All. May the Creator protect us and keep our Bodies and Spirits strong.

Amen

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Sources of extinction rates of species information are from the report of the United Nations on Biological Diversity Estimates of Species Extinction Rate and other United Nations Environmental Programs.