

The National Boreal Caribou Knowledge Consortium (NBCKC) is a forum for collaborative knowledge generation, sharing and mobilization to support conservation and recovery of boreal caribou.

# Working together to support boreal caribou recovery

Happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday NBCKC! Launched in June 2018, it is remarkable to reflect back upon the journey we have taken over the past four years. From an initial gathering of 50 representatives in a hotel boardroom, the NBCKC network has now grown to over 150 members representing a diverse group of people from federal, provincial and territorial governments, Indignous organizations, co-management boards, industry, academia, ENGOs and consultants from across Canada. The NBCKC Indigneous Knowledge Circle (IKC) has blossomed from early conversations with three National Indigenous Organizations to a vibrant group of ~40 passionate members representing First Nations, Metis, and Inuit organizations working together to advocate for meaningful inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and leadership in support of caribou conservation. In only four short years, three key working groups, a caribou health knowledge network and an online knowledge sharing portal have been established to help us deliver on our collective priorities.

This spring, the Secretariat looked back on these first 4 years with our members via small group meetings. We learned a lot about why you participate, what you value, and how you want to move forward. During our upcoming June meetings, we will report back about what we heard specifically. We will also advance the theory of change for caribou, examine some inhouse indicators of success, preview exciting knowledge products and guidance coming soon from the Indigenous Knowledge Circle, and collaboratively determine the best ways to track our progress.

We are excited to continue the work of the NBCKC into it's 5<sup>th</sup> year, we hope you are too! In this newsletter, you will get a sneak peak at some of the exciting work that is underway, hear about upcoming events, and learn about newly released tools and resources.

The NBCKC Secretariat



### News & Events

- NEW: The CCLM portal now features ABOUT pages for the NBCKC groups! Click on the links to visit them today: <u>IKC</u> | <u>MWG</u> | <u>HRWG</u> | <u>PMWG</u>
- June 20<sup>th</sup> (2pm ET): Join us for "<u>Rising Together: A Celebration of</u> <u>Indigenous-led Conservation</u>" to celebrate the launch of the IPCA Knowledge Basket and the collective efforts of Indigenous leaders, organizations and communities in addressing biodiversity loss and climate change, while healing relationships with the lands, waters, and between humans and non-human relatives, for the benefit of all.
- June 21<sup>st</sup>: National Indigenous Peoples Day we invite you to explore opportunities to learn and participate in activities in your area! If you'd like to get connected with NBCKC or IKC please <u>email the NBCKC Secretariat</u>.



### **NBCKC** Updates



June Meetings

This June we are excited to come together with NBCKC, IKC and WG members to celebrate the 5th annual June meeting of the NBCKC Building off the momentum of our past meetings, this year the NBCKC will continue it's collaborative work developing a Theory of Change for caribou conservation bv identifying 'indicators of success'. These indicators will allow us to measure our progress towards the goals and critical objectives identified at past meetings. We will also have the opportunity to share what we heard from the NBCKC member interviews conducted this past spring as well as the external NBCKC Survey conducted by the ECCC Evaluations Branch. As we chart the course towards our collective vision, "A future where Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada have the opportunity to live in relationship with boreal caribou, where caribou populations are selfsustaining across Canada and the critical habitat to support these populations is avaialable," we wish to sincerely thank all of you who have dedicated your time, energy and passion to making this knowledge consortium impactful!



#### Indigenous Knowledge Circle

The IKC recently released its foundational piece "Guiding Principles for Cross-cultural Collaboration"! These principles provide the framework for a new way of working rooted in reconciliation, healing and collaboration to protect, restore and conserve species and natural environments. We encourage you to share and apply this work broadly within your networks. If you have questions or would like to learn more about the IKC, please email Kristin.





This winter, members of the Monitoring Working Group (MWG) met to share updates on ongoing monitoring programs, to refine tools for inclusion in the Boreal Caribou Monitoring Toolkit, and to celebrate important milestones, such as the completion of the interactive decision tree! In the summer of 2022, the MWG looks forward to making progress on a number of its resources, including: a caribou health monitoring document, a 'considerations for data anlaysis' report, and a bilingual glossary. To learn more about the MWG or to get involved, contact Melanie.



It's finally here! This spring, the Habitat Restoration Working Group (HRWG) publically released the Boreal Caribou Ecological Model Technical Report and Infographic on the CCLM. Many thanks to all the HRWG members for the time and energy spent discussing, writing and reviewing these documents. As a follow-up, the next report in the series "Boreal Caribou Habitat **Restoration Practices: Application** Outcomes" and has been completed by HRWG member Dr. Steve Wilson and will be sent out for review by the HRWG shortly. This next report builds on the boreal caribou model framework, pulling together the actions and outcomes of restoration work different model targeted at pathways to date. The recommendations and identified opportunities in this report provide exciting next steps for the HRWG to explore at future meetings. To learn more about the HRWG, the Boreal Caribou Ecological Model or how to get involved, please contact Tatyana.



## Management

The Population Management Working Group (PMWG) continues to meet regularly to share knowledge and lessons learned about caribou management techniques. Refinements were made to an infographic that explains the of importance management actions and new information was added to a pan-Canadian map detailing caribou management programs. In February, the extension group, which includes a broader membership, met and established a roadmap of priority work that will help inform the path forward for the PMWG. To learn more about the PMWG or to get involved, contact Melanie.



#### Caribou Health

NEWS! The Chronic Wasting Disease Knowledge Network has broaded their scope and changed their name to the Caribou Health Knowledge Network (CHKN). At the 3<sup>rd</sup> biannual network meeting in May, meeting participants learned from two invited presentations and discussed key issues affecting boreal caribou health. During this meeting, Dr. Jillian Detwiler (University of Manitoba) gave an overview presentation on the risk from Paralaphostronalus tenius (brainworm). Next, Dr. Abdullah Mamun (University AI of Saskatchewan) presented "TEK and Science for Understanding CWD Risk among Woodland Caribou and deer in Northern Saskatchewan" on behalf of a broader research collaboration that included Robin McLeod (Prince Albert Grand Council), Patrick Duracher (Meadow Lake Tribal Council) and Dr. Phil Please Mcloughlin. contact Tatyana if you would like to learn more about this network.

CONTACT THE NBCKC SECRETARIAT AT: <u>CNSCB-NBCKC@canada.ca</u>



Canadian Conservation and Land Management

The NBCKC is one of the five collaborating organizations behind the Canadian Conservation and Land Management Knowledge Portal (CCLM) - www.cclmportal.ca. Now in it's 2<sup>nd</sup> year since public launch, the CCLM continues to grow its user base and takes steps for continued impact including undertaking user-informed site improvements, development of a batch upload option for large bundles of resources, and the development of a knowledge exchange outreach strategy to help provide additional value to a growing user base.

Monitoring the success of the CCLM Portal is important to ensure we are meeting the needs of its users. Fast facts:



Finally, with the new knowledge exchange outreach strategy underway, we are excited to report that the two most recent webinars were well attended. Of note. audience feedback indicated that they valued the more relational opportunities (such as breakout rooms with speakers and panel discussions) to connect with knowledge One holders. knowledge mobilization infographic has been published with two more in development.



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