

## ***Preservation of the Reindeer Herd***

## ***PRESS RELEASE***

***(Inuvik, NT) January 22, 2021*** - The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) would like to remind Inuvialuit beneficiaries, other residents, and visitors of the Inuvialuit Settlement Region that harvesting from the reindeer herd is not allowed.

“While harvesting is a fundamental way of life for us, I remind all community members to refrain from harvesting from this private herd,” said IRC Chair and CEO Duane Smith. “IRC is working hard to foster the growth and well-being of the herd so that it can one day provide sustainable resources to all Inuvialuit.”

As the herd follows its regular migration pattern, we must work together to protect and strengthen the herd so it can provide a sustainable supply of food to those in need within our communities. This herd is being overseen and protected for the benefit of all Inuvialuit. The herders, with direction from IRC, will be monitoring the situation and reminding individuals that harvesting from the herd will not be tolerated.

With the support of all Inuvialuit, in the future, the reindeer herd will be able to provide:

- A sustainable source of traditional food
- Hides and crafting supplies
- Employment and training opportunities for Inuvialuit beneficiaries
- On-the-land learning and education opportunities for Inuvialuit beneficiaries; and
- Tourism opportunities

IRC asks that all community members respect the health of the herd by not harvesting or interfering with the reindeer herd. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact IRC.

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