

Makivvik: Opening Statement, NAMMCO 31st Annual Meeting, in Reykjavik, Iceland.

March 19, 2024

Mr. Chair, NAMMCO members, and other observers

Makivvik, on behalf of the Inuit of Nunavik, Northern Quebec, is pleased to be an observer to the 31st annual meeting of NAMMCO in Reykjavik. We would like to thank Reykjavik and Iceland for hosting this meeting.

Makivik views the proceedings of NAMMCO as an important forum for discussions on issues that pertain to the sustainable use of marine mammals that are essential to Nunavik Inuit food security, culture, and livelihood, within the context of comprehensive Canadian Land Claims Agreements.

Nunavimmiut have used seals, whales, and walrus for millennia to survive. The health of the ecosystem and the marine mammals that reside in it are intimately linked with the health of Inuit. Sound management can only be achieved by using accurate data based on both traditional Inuit approaches as well as western science. Including the use of both science and Inuit Knowledge is essential for the stewardship of this vital resource.

Makivvik has over 46 years' experience in reconciling knowledges and approaches through research & monitoring and in developing collaboration with key partners to ensures our resources are safe and beneficial to our well-being. We will continue to advocate for better wildlife management plans and policies with the help of all stakeholders for the benefit of Nunavik Inuit.

Nakurmiik, thank you, merci. Tak fyrir

Adamie Delisle Alaku Executive Vice President, Makivvik Corporation Department of Environment, Wildlife & Research