



NEWS RELEASE

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Delegates gathering in Whitehorse for the 15th North American Caribou Workshop

WHITEHORSE – The biennial North American Caribou Workshop (NACW), the largest technical conference of its kind dealing specifically with caribou biology and management, will be held from 12-16 May 2014 in Whitehorse at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre. This year’s meeting represents the 15th time biologists, managers, and other stakeholders have gathered to discuss caribou issues. Nearly 300 delegates are expected to be in Whitehorse for the Workshop.

The theme of this year’s Workshop is “Caribou Conservation and Management: What’s Working?” It has been three decades since the first North American Caribou Workshop was held in Whitehorse in 1983. With the 15th NACW returning to Whitehorse, it is a fitting opportunity to examine what we have achieved, as managers, biologists, and other interested groups with respect to advancing caribou conservation and management. Have we been successful in our efforts to ensure caribou populations are being managed in a sustainable fashion? What has worked, what hasn’t worked, and what can we do differently?

To complement the technical sessions, we have organized “A Celebration of Caribou” – a free public event at the Yukon Arts Centre on Tuesday 13 May, 7:30 p.m. This event will include videos, films and storytelling that portray caribou behaviour, and the roles that caribou play in the economy, cultural heritage and spiritual sustenance of northern communities. This event is co-sponsored by the 15th North American Caribou Workshop and Wildlife Conservation Society Canada with funding support from the W. Garfield Weston Foundation.

Primary sponsors of the 15th NACW are Environment Yukon and the 14th North American Caribou Workshop, who provided valuable start-up funds. The organizing committee for this Workshop consists of representatives from Environment Yukon, Canadian Wildlife Service,

Carcross Tagish First Nation, Environmental Dynamics Inc., , Ta'an Kwäch'än Council, University of Alberta, and Wildlife Conservation Society Canada. Other major sponsors include Stantec, Devon Energy, Cenovus Energy, and ConocoPhillips Canada.

More information can be found on the Workshop website <http://www.2014nacw.ca>. Media are welcome to attend the Workshop but are asked to pre-register using the on-line registration form found at <http://2014nacw.ca/Registration.aspx>. Audio or video recording will not be allowed during the technical presentations, but media are welcome to contact individual speakers.

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