



Membership/Alternate Biographies November 23, 2018

MEMBERS:	Expires	ALTERNATES:	Expires
Leon Andrew (Chairperson ¹)	May 30, 2021	Dr. Deborah Simmons	May 30, 2021
Dr. Suzanne Carrière (Alternate Chairperson)	April 1, 2020	n/a	
Alestine Andre	Jan. 31, 2021	n/a	
Dr. Alice Legat	Jan. 31, 2021	n/a	
Allison Thompson	Jan. 15, 2020	n/a	
Arthur Beck	Sept. 20, 2023	Daniel Beck	Sept. 20, 2023
James Firth	Mar. 27, 2020	Kaytlin Cooper	March 13, 2022
Misty Ireland	Sept. 30, 2020	n/a	
Moise Rabesca	Mar. 15, 2020	Aimee Guile	July 19, 2023
Dr. Nicholas (Nic) Larter	April 1, 2020	n/a	
Lynda Yonge	March 23, 2022	n/a	

MEMBERS:

Leon Andrew: Leon is a Shúhtagot'ınę elder with the Tulít'a Dene Band, and currently holds a position on the Board of the Tulít'a Land and Financial Corporation. He possesses significant expertise of species, habitat, northern ecosystems and conservation in the Sahtú Region drawn from traditional knowledge and community knowledge, as well as cross-cultural knowledge through his considerable experience with scientific inquiry working in collaboration with wildlife biologists. During 2011-2012 he contributed to the Aboriginal Steering Water Stewardship Strategy, and was an advisor to Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories on Transboundary Water negotiations with Alberta. Leon was an Access and Benefits negotiator and served on the Canol Heritage

¹ Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson are selected for 2-year terms. Current selections expire on May 12, 2019.

Trail Committee for the Tulít'a District during 2004-2006. Leon has provided his research expertise on numerous traditional knowledge studies, assisted and advised a GNWT archaeologist from the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Centre, and is also an experienced interpreter in Dene and English languages. He was an active trapper in the Tulít'a area and has firsthand experience of both the positive and negative effects of exploration activities on the environment and traditional economy of the Northwest Territories. Leon was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Sahtú Renewable Resources Board.

Dr. Suzanne Carrière: Suzanne holds the Wildlife Biologist (Biodiversity) position for the Wildlife Division in Yellowknife. Suzanne is the Departmental authority on biodiversity planning, research, monitoring and management, and is responsible for providing overall direction on biodiversity programs in the NWT. She has worked for the Department since 1996 in her current capacity. Suzanne served as a member of the SARC from 2010 to 2015 and was most recently the Alternate Chairperson of the SARC. Suzanne was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Alestine Andre: Alestine, a Gwichya Gwich'in participant from Tsiigehtchic, has been with the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI) since June 1994. Since that time, Alestine has worked as a Cultural Director and Executive Director, and is currently the Heritage Researcher. Alestine has an Associate Degree (1987) in Public Administration from Camosun College, a Bachelor of Arts degree (1994) in Anthropology and Women's Studies from the University of Victoria, and a Master's degree (2006) in the School of Environmental Studies (Ethnobotany) from the University of Victoria. Her master's thesis was based on the traditional plant knowledge of Gwich'in plant specialist Mrs. Ruth Welsh and her work with the GSCI and Aurora Research Institute (with Alan Fehr), which resulted in the book *Gwich'in Ethnobotany: Plants Used by the Gwich'in for Food, Medicine, Shelter and Tools*, by Alestine Andre and Alan Fehr (2002), currently in its 3rd printing. Over the past 20+ years, Alestine was part of the GSCI staff who worked closely with Gwich'in Elders and land users on over 100 research projects to document their vast knowledge of the land, culture, history and language. The GSCI was given clear direction from the Elders to not only document their knowledge but also help carry their knowledge forward into the future. This is happening as their knowledge is shared in a variety of forms – i.e., books, articles, videos, DVDs, exhibits, the GSCI website, and other media including the YouTube channel and Facebook. In 2005, Alestine was awarded a Gwich'in Achievement Award by the Gwich'in Tribal Council in the career category of Gwich'in Culture. In March 2007,

Alestine was awarded a National Aboriginal Achievement Award in the category of Culture, Heritage and Spirituality at a ceremony in Edmonton. When requested, Alestine teaches traditional plant medicine to students at the Chief Paul Niditchie School in Tsiigehtchic and the Chief Julius School in Fort McPherson. In her lifetime, Alestine has travelled to many countries around the world. Today Alestine, a birder, also photographs plants throughout the year, and sings with the Tsiigehtchic Singers. Since the late 1970s, Alestine has been returning every August to her family's fish camp at Diighe'tr'aajil on the Mackenzie River. Alestine was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Dr. Alice Legat: Alice, an anthropologist, has made the NWT her home since 1986. She completed her doctorate in Anthropology at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland and her post-doctorate at Trent University, Canada. She continues to have ties to both universities. Alice is interested in how the past informs present decision-making, especially in relation to the environment. Alice has been principle investigator on a variety of projects that focused on human-animal relations on the tundra, Canadian Shield, and the taiga plain. Alice's research involvement has included traditional governance (including rules and laws associated with wildlife), relationships between barren-ground caribou migration and their habitat, 'what's happening with wolverine?', boreal caribou and wildfires, the impact of Rayrock Uranium Mine on wildlife and Tłįchǫ, place names as indicators of bio-geographical knowledge, and the effects of climate change on community well-being. Alice was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Allison Thompson: Allison works in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region as the Wildlife Biologist for the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT); she has been in this role since January 2017. In this role, Allison works with communities, Hunters and Trappers Committees, other Inuvialuit resource management boards, and government to support WMAC (NWT)'s involvement in species at risk legislation and wildlife management issues. Allison has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences and a Master of Science degree in Resource Management and Environmental Studies, both from the University of British Columbia. Her undergraduate studies focused on coastal ecosystem services and her master's research explored the movement ecology of the African buffalo in Namibia. Allison has also worked with the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society examining the potential impacts of resource development on key species and undisturbed tracts of habitat in northern British Columbia.

- Arthur Beck: Arthur lives in Fort Resolution. He was born in Yellowknife and grew up in the Rocher River/Simpson Islands region south of Great Slave Lake practicing traditional subsistence activities. He still enjoys harvesting and other outdoor activities. Arthur has worked in the forestry, tourism and commercial fishing industries in the NWT and has served on the following boards: Protected Areas Strategy, Wildlife Act, Great Slave Lake Advisory Committee, Caribou Management Board, the Water Strategy, and the Northwest Territory Métis Nation. He is knowledgeable about the resources in the South Slave region, as well as the importance of traditional and community knowledge and their uses in wildlife management. Arthur was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories, on the advice of the Northwest Territory Métis Nation.
- James Firth: James is a Gwich'in Participant originally from Fort McPherson but presently living in Inuvik. He served as a board member of the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board (GRRB) from 1993 to 2012 and was instrumental in establishing the Board after the Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement was settled in 1992. He has served in many positions within the Gwich'in organization and was Chief of the Inuvik Native Band for many years. James still practices his traditional subsistence activities and enjoys hunting and trapping. James was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board.
- Misty Ireland: Misty is a Dehcho Dene currently residing in Hay River. The 'Dene' perspective is an integral part of her life and in the way she views the world around her. She stays current on regional issues by attending Annual Assemblies and Leadership meetings. Misty is knowledgeable about the resources and environmental concerns in the Dehcho region and with close ties to family elders, has community and traditional knowledge, particularly in regards to water quality, contaminants, protected areas, cumulative impacts, conservation, and land use issues. In the 1990s, Misty worked as an interpretive guide in and around Yellowknife, Fort Simpson, and the Nahanni National Park Reserve. More recently, Misty has worked as the Dehcho Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Oceans Management (AAROM) Coordinator and as a General Manager with the Dehcho Regional Corporation. In addition, Misty has completed one term as a SARC Alternate. Misty was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories, on the advice of the Dehcho First Nations.
- Moise Rabesca: Moise is from Behchokò and has extensive knowledge of wildlife and renewable resources in Wek'èezhii. Having been raised on an island in the North Arm of Great Slave Lake with 10 brothers and sisters of his blended family, he learned the ways of survival in a

harsh northern climate. Moise continues to live a traditional lifestyle, practicing subsistence activities including hunting and fishing. Moise and his late wife, Joyce, are owners of Sah Naji Kwe Lodge. Translating into English, 'Sah Naji Kwe' means 'Bear Healing Rock'. They provided outfitting and guiding services on the barrenlands for over 20 years as owners of Rabesca Resources Ltd., before the barren-ground caribou declines led them to close their business. Moise is a member of the Great Slave Lake Advisory Committee and NWT Tourism Association as well as being a former member of the Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board. Moise was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Wek'èezhii Renewable Resources Board.

Dr. Nicholas (Nic) Larter: Nic is the Manager of Wildlife Research and Monitoring for the Dehcho Region in Fort Simpson where he has been since 2002. Before moving to the Dehcho, Nic spent over nine years as the Caribou/Muskox Biologist in the Inuvik Region. He has extensive field experience with many northern wildlife populations including Peary and boreal caribou, muskox, moose and wood bison. Nic regularly presents his research findings to a variety of local, national, and international audiences and is currently a research associate of the Arctic Institute of North America and a member of the wood bison species specialist group for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Nic served as an alternate member to the SARC from 2010 to 2015. Nic was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

Lynda Yonge: Lynda brings more than twenty years of experience with wildlife and species at risk management in the NWT. She holds a B.Sc. degree in Zoology from the University of British Columbia and a Master of Environmental Studies from York University with a specialization in environmentally sustainable development. She worked for the GNWT with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) in a variety of positions including Species at Risk Specialist, Wildlife Management Specialist, and Director of Wildlife. During that time she was instrumental in developing the collaborative process that resulted in the *Species at Risk (NWT) Act* and the *Wildlife Act* and was a key player in drafting the two acts. She is intimately familiar with the legislation and processes in place to identify, assess, list and manage/recover species at risk as well as with the tools available to manage wildlife to prevent them from becoming at risk. She has been involved with the management of a wide range of species, including polar bears, barren-ground caribou, boreal caribou, and wood bison, and brings a personal passion and commitment to conservation. Lynda was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

ALTERNATES:

Dr. Deborah Simmons: Deb is a social scientist specialising in social and environmental issues relating to indigenous peoples. She was raised in the Northwest Territories and completed her doctorate in the field of Native Studies at York University. Deborah has been involved in traditional knowledge research in the Sahtu Region since 1999, including work for the Sahtu Land Use Planning Board, the Délı̄nę Uranium Team (Dene Náowéré Chets'elə), and the ʔehdzo Got'ı̄nę Gots'ę Nákedı (Caribou Traditional Knowledge Study). During 2006-2010 she was Principal Investigator with the Délı̄nę Knowledge Project, and worked with SENES Consultants Ltd. She is Assistant Professor in Native Studies at the University of Manitoba and Aboriginal Studies, University of Toronto. She was hired as Executive Director of the ʔehdzo Got'ı̄nę Gots'ę Nákedı in the spring of 2012. Deb is a Sahtú-based traditional knowledge researcher with a strong focus on Dene and Metis knowledge about harvest species, habitat, northern ecosystems and conservation. Deb is the alternate for Leon Andrew.

Daniel Beck: Danny is a resident of Hay River and has been involved with the Northwest Territory Métis Nation for many years. He has served in various positions: Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and Director. Danny is a long-time hunter, trapper and an avid dog musher. He is very knowledgeable about the resources within the South Slave area, and the importance of Traditional Knowledge and its uses in the management of wildlife. Danny is the alternate for Arthur Beck.

Kaytlin Cooper: Kaytlin is the Species at Risk Biologist with the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board and has been with them since January 2015. She works with local communities, Renewable Resource Councils and the federal and territorial governments, assisting with the development of species status assessments and listings, management plans, and recovery strategies. She administers species at risk programs and research projects in the Gwich'in Settlement Area, including working with Gwich'in Tribal Council Department of Cultural Heritage collecting Traditional Knowledge and ensuring they are included in Species at Risk documents. Kaytlin has a Bachelor of Science degree with honours in Applied Ecology, and a Master of Science degree in Habitat Creation and Management, both from Staffordshire University in the UK. She has also studied Environmental Impact Assessment at Capilano University and has a Graduate Certificate in Environmental Practice: Natural Resources Management from Royal Roads University. She has worked as a park ranger for the government and as a field ecologist for an environmental consultancy in the UK specializing in Species at Risk, and has spent considerable years volunteering for Stanley Park Ecology Society and the Wilderness

Committee in Vancouver focusing on wildlife surveys and public outreach and education. Kaytlin is the alternate for James Firth.

Aimee Guile:

Aimee works for the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board as a Conservation Biologist where she provides the Board with scientific research, monitoring, and management advice on plants, forests, protected areas, and species at risk in Wek'èezhìi. She has been in this role since May 2018. She previously worked for the Government of the Northwest Territories as a Contaminated Sites Project Manager. Aimee grew up in Yellowknife, where she fostered her love of the north and the natural world. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from the University of British Columbia and is in the process of completing her Master of Science degree in Environmental Practice through Royal Roads University. Aimee is the alternate for Moise Rabesca.