



## Membership/Alternate Biographies September 15, 2021

<b>MEMBERS:</b>	<b>Expires</b>	<b>ALTERNATES:</b>	<b>Expires</b>
Leon Andrew (Chairperson <sup>1</sup> )	May 30, 2026	Dr. Deborah Simmons	May 30, 2026
Dr. Suzanne Carrière (Alternate Chairperson)	March 31, 2025	n/a	
Alestine Andre	Feb. 1, 2026	n/a	
Rosemin Nathoo	Jan. 14, 2026	Allison Thompson	Jan. 14, 2023
Arthur Beck	Sept. 20, 2023	Daniel Beck	Sept. 20, 2023
Kaytlin Cooper	March 27, 2025	James Firth	March 27, 2025
Lynda Yonge	March 23, 2022	n/a	
Moise Rabesca	March 15, 2025	Aimee Guile	July 19, 2023
Dr. Nicholas (Nic) Larter	March 31, 2025	n/a	
Petter Jacobsen	Dec. 19, 2024	n/a	

### MEMBERS:

Leon Andrew: Leon is a Shúhtaot'įnę elder with the Tulít'a Dene Band. He is the Research Director and Chair of the Nę K'ə Dene Ts'įłı (Living on the Land) Forum. He served as a Special Advisor to the ʔehdzo Got'įnę Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board) for many years. He has been 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 Trail Committee for the Tulít'a District during 2004-2006. He has also served on the Board of the Tulít'a Land and Financial Corporation. Leon has provided his research expertise on numerous traditional knowledge studies, assisted and advised GNWT Archeologists from the Prince of Wales Museum, and is also an experienced interpreter in Dene and English languages. He was

<sup>1</sup> Chairperson and Alternate Chairperson are selected for 2-year terms. Current selections expire on May 12, 2021.

an active trapper in the Tulít'a area and has first-hand experience of both the positive and negative effects of exploration activities on the environment and traditional economy of the Northwest Territories. Leon is recognized as one of the Sahtú Region's most experienced researchers, and he serves in a leading capacity in various regional, national and international research programs involving research and monitoring: the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy, Mackenzie River Basin Board, the Canadian Mountain Network, Northern Water Futures, and Árramät: Biodiversity Conservation and the Health and Well-being of Indigenous Peoples (New Frontiers in Research Fund of Canada's research Tri-Agency). 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 from Tsiigehtchic, retired in December 2017 after working with the Gwich'in Tribal Council Department of Cultural Heritage (formerly the Gwich'in Social and Cultural Institute (GSCI)) for 23 years. 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 (2010), currently in its 3rd printing. 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. When requested Alestine collects and prepares plant medicines. In her lifetime, Alestine has travelled around the world to many countries. Since the late 1970s, when she can, Alestine has returned to her family's fish camp at Diighe'tr'aajil on the Mackenzie River every August. Today Alestine is retired and lives in

Whitehorse, Yukon and sits on the Arctic Rivers Council and the Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council Medicine from the Land Teaching Module Working Group. Alestine was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

**Rosemin Nathoo:** Rosemin is the Wildlife Biologist for the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. Her role is to provide advice to the Council to meet its mandate on all matters relating to wildlife policy and the management, regulation, research, enforcement and administration of wildlife, habitat and harvesting for the Western Arctic Region, and to serve as the Council's primary point of contact for information on species at risk. Rosemin was trained in Environmental and Wildlife Management technology in Montreal and Quebec's Laurentian Mountains, then obtained her B.Sc. in Wildlife Biology, with minors in theoretical physics and English literature, from Bishop's University.

**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.

**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.

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.

Moise Rabesca: Moise is from Behchokǫ and has extensive knowledge of wildlife and renewable resources in Wek'èezhìi. 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 owned the Sah Naji Kwe Lodge for more than 25 years. Translating into English, 'Sah Naji Kwe' means 'Bear Healing Rock'. He provided outfitting and guiding services on the barrenlands for over 20 years as owner of Rabesca Resources Ltd., before the barren-ground caribou declines led him to close his business. Moise has been a member of the Great Slave Lake Advisory Committee and NWT Tourism Association, as well as being a former member of the Wek'èezhìi Renewable Resources Board. Moise was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Wek'èezhìi 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.

Petter Jacobsen: Petter has a Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology (2008) and a Master of Arts in First Nations Studies & Environmental Studies (2011) from the University of Northern British Columbia. He is the Director and owner of Jacobsen Resources, with his primary client being the Tłıchq̓ Government – Dedats'eetsa: Tłıchq̓ Research and Training Institute. The majority of his work as Principal Investigator has been organizing and conducting Tłıchq̓ knowledge research on barren-ground caribou, migration routes, climate change, and cumulative impacts since 2009. The on-the-land traditional monitoring program "Tłıchq̓ Ekw̓ Nàxoède K'è" (formerly the Boots on the Ground program) is Petter's most recent work. Petter was appointed to the Species at Risk Committee by the Government of the Northwest Territories, on the advice of the Conference of Management Authorities.

**ALTERNATES:**

Dr. Deborah Simmons: Deb is trained as 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 interdisciplinary research combining traditional knowledge and science in the Sahtú Region since 1999, including work for the Sahtú Land Use Planning Board and Délıne Uranium Team (Dene Náowéré Chets'elə) and Délıne Knowledge Project. She is Adjunct Professor in the School of Public Health and Health Systems at University of Waterloo, and Special Graduate Faculty at Trent University in Environmental and Life Sciences at Trent University. She welcomes opportunities to mentor graduate students interested in pursuing Sahtú-based research to support preservation of both wildlife and Dene and Métis ways of life. Dr. Simmons has served as Executive Director of the ʔehdzo Go'ıne Gots'ę Nákedı (Sahtú Renewable Resources Board) since 2012. In implementing vision, goals and objectives of the Board, she remains actively involved in community-collaborative research and conservation planning. She helped found the Ne K'ə Dene Ts'ııı (Living on the Land) Forum. She is a member of the Canadian

Mountain Network, and helps to represent the Board on the NWT Conference of Management Authorities (CMA) on Species At Risk and the Advisory Committee for Cooperation on Wildlife Management (ACCWM). Deb is the alternate for Leon Andrew.

Allison Thompson: Allison currently works as a Program Manager for the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (North Slope) (2018-present). Previously, she worked as the Biologist for the Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT) (2017-2018). In both roles, Allison has worked with communities, Hunters and Trappers Committees, other Inuvialuit resource management boards, and government to support WMAC (NS) and 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. Allison is the alternate to Rosemin Nathoo.

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.

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.

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.