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Building *Nunavut* Together  
*Nunavut* iluqatigiingniq  
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

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Minister of Environment  
Ministaat Avatiliqiyitkut  
Ministre de l'Environnement

November 17, 2023

Joe Savikataaq  
Member for Arviat South,  
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

**RE: Oral Question 600-6(2) Disease Wildlife Levels**

Dear Mr. Savikataaq,

I am writing to you in response to your Oral Question 600-6(2) *Disease Wildlife Levels* in the Nunavut Legislative Assembly on October 30, 2023.

I want to thank you for your question regarding, "...what number of diseased caribou, normal and above average levels". Additionally, your question regarding caribou samples being sent out for diagnostic testing.

The volume of accounts from hunters received regarding sick or unhealthy caribou varies from year to year; with few to rare reports from hunters in some years. Additionally, there are years when reports from hunters are more numerous for specific herds, or in the vicinity of specific communities.

This year, the department has received numerous testimonial accounts from hunters concerning caribou herds in the Kitikmeot and Kivalliq regions. Therefore, the department continues to engage and work with local hunters to safely acquire samples to send out for diagnostic testing.

To date the department has received three samples for diagnostic testing which have been sent out and the department is awaiting the results. I will certainly share these results with you when they are obtained.

Thank you,

Daniel Qavvik  
Minister of Environment