

The Role of Harvesters and Traditional Users in Environmental Monitoring Programs: taken from 2007 North Slope Conference Proceedings – Randall Pokiak, Inuvialuit Harvester, Tuktoyaktuk, NWT

I'd like to say good morning to everybody here. I would also like to thank Lindsay Staples for phoning me and asking me to address the scientific community on environmental wildlife issues and the research. I believe that our communities are closely knitted together. The only thing is that our types of knowledge are a little bit different: one is academic, and the other one is basically practical. I think you need both to make life a little easier for everybody.



Photo credit: Michael Fabijian

I am going to try and do a little bit of justice here for the harvesters and for the knowledge that we can contribute to the communities. We are all trying to understand the environment, the wildlife issues and the changes that are going on within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region, including the Yukon North Slope. I want to give you an idea about the things a harvester goes through to get to a meeting like this. If you want a harvester to be involved, you've got to know a little bit about the kind of life that we live and the day-to-day activities. For instance, I just had an experience before I came here. That's why my voice is the way it is this morning. I'm glad I got it back before I spoke this morning. Last week I was out in the caribou conference in Inuvik. It ended Friday and I got home Friday night. Saturday morning I went out to my trapline, because I had two days, Saturday and Sunday. Before I left I told my

son, "Lucky, I'm going to be gone. I should be home at seven o'clock. If I don't show up by nine o'clock, something is wrong."

I went out on the trapline and I did my thing. It's a two-and-a-half-hour ride. On my way home, my crankshaft broke, at seven o'clock. I knew my boy was going to be coming out to get me, but I decided, well, I'm 57 years old, getting on in years, now so now's a chance for me to walk eight miles to see how much physical and mental change has happened from my prime years to that aging level. And that's why I lost my voice. I got dehydrated, and if I was going to have a heart attack, I would have had it then. As a harvester, you do a lot of work and you put out physically. You're putting all your energy into your muscles, your heart. Everything is working. Really, I thought. "Well, if I am going to die of a heart attack, I'm going to die of a heart attack, but the thing is, I've got commitments here and if my boy makes it, I'll be able to make it here."

I got home at 4:30 in the morning. My boy came out at 1:30 and picked me up, and we got back at 4:30. I got a plane in the morning, at ten o'clock, and I came here that same Monday afternoon. So, that gives you a little bit of an idea. If you want harvesters involved, this is what we go through trying to live up to certain commitments. It's really hard for harvesters to go through that. It's better just to stay out on the land and forget about everything else. That's why at public meetings and community gatherings, you don't see so many harvesters coming in and sitting on chairs like you are, because they prefer to be out there. They depend on their leaders that they have put into positions, under the IFA, through game councils, and through co-management boards, to represent them, and to protect their rights, and interests in the laws, regulations and legislation. I think they want to be involved, but the time commitment is something that they have to consider. That gives you an idea of the

kind of impact people like myself go through, just to be involved in the things that are of interest to me as a harvester and to my family.

Before I start, I'd just like to mention that we, the academics and the harvesters, can learn from each other. Sometimes we forget that we can learn from the younger generation, too, if we listen to them and answer their questions. It draws from us ways of how to explain certain things and the things that we are involved with in life.

I have a girl, Devalynn. She's 14-and-a-half years old. I did a lot of traveling last year and had an opportunity to be with her in Inuvik for five days. So, I phoned her up and said, "Devalynn, come to Inuvik. I want to visit with you. I want to spend some time with you. I'm at a meeting, but we'll have breakfast, lunch, dinner and evenings together." That first day she arrived, we were having lunch and we were sitting there, and somebody came up and shook my hand, and we talked for a few minutes about some issue, and he walked away and I looked at my girl, and I said, "That guy works for the government, and this is what he does in regards to the wildlife issues."

I just finished saying that when somebody else comes along and shakes my hand, and we talked about something else, and he walks away. And I said, "Devalynn, that guy works for the industry, and this is what his interests are." There was a conference going on in Inuvik at the time and all these people were coming into the restaurant. Then Mike Fabijan came in. He works for an environmental firm, dealing with environmental TK issues of the region. He shook my hand and talked a little bit, and I told her, "That's an environmental person, who works with oil companies and the governments at times to try and better understand about the wildlife and environmental issues." About five people came and talked to me like that.

At the end of that, Devalynn said, "Dad, you sure know lots of people and when they talk about a certain thing, you understand them and you know what they're talking about." I said to her, "My girl, look, you know me. I am a harvester and a hunter. My knowledge is from the environment and the wildlife that's in that

environment. Because of that knowledge I've gained through the years as a harvester, it has brought me to get to know these people. And in order for a harvester like myself to be involved, I had to get to know how the government works. I had to get to know how the industry works, their interests, their needs, and the same with everybody else who has interests in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region in regards to the environment and wildlife." So, it's not only my activities in earning an income and food from the land that I have to know about. You have to learn about another realm, like other agencies, so that I can say, "Okay, I know about those guys. They're influencing my life and my lifestyle. We have to be involved. We have to somehow be involved so that our interests are looked after."

And she said, "Well, how did you get to know so much?" And I said, "Devalynn, you forget I am 57 years old; you're 14. I got a real head start on you. I'll tell you what, my knowledge of my environment as a harvester has made me able to travel. I can share with you as much as I know. If you are willing to learn, if you are willing to listen, I will share with you, and this knowledge that I have about wildlife and environment, that can take you places."



I just wanted to share that, because young people are very important, because you've got to bring them up behind you. Not only should your sons be out on the land, but your daughters, because in our culture, we train our children, too. They learn to hunt. My girl is an excellent shot. She can take a rifle and load it up, and in standing position hit a target. She's been trained to do that. So, if you're going to live a life out there, you've got to be able to do these things, whether you're a boy or a girl.

One of the other things that my girl and I talked about is the caribou. When I told her about the situation, I said, "We are probably going to have to live with one caribou a year." She looked at me right in the eye and she said, "Dad, how are we going to live?" You know, that was the question she had. With the amount of caribou meat that we normally eat, we have to reduce it quite a bit. And I said, "Devalynn, you know, living with me, you're lucky, because your diet is different. You have a wide variety of diet and wildlife. So, if you are missing out on one thing, you can get another thing, and you are accustomed to that food. A lot of children your age are unaccustomed to those kinds of foods. They can't eat seal; some of them can't eat polar bear." So, there's a change of diet. You learn, you know, from these young people. How can we reach them and introduce a certain level of understanding to them so that they can start adapting to changes that are going on?

This is a time for people to try to engage. I'm here because of my interests. I think that the scientific community should know the kind of contribution harvesters can make. The people that are out there right now, that are not here, that can't be here, they've got a lot of knowledge. They have a lot more than I have because they are out there most of the time. I spent a lot of my time negotiating and traveling. That has had a cultural and traditional impact on me, because I want to be out there, and yet I'm here. It's really important that TK is tapped into. We draw from that. The elders that negotiated or helped or started the final agreement drew from the traditional knowledge that they had. You can imagine that TK they had is a lot more than I have right now. I only draw from them and they're gone. There are few elders I can go to and say, "Look, this is the situation that I see out on the land, tell me about it." Because those elders have passed on and the knowledge is gone. The only thing that we have now is remnants of what they left behind, and this is what we still draw from as harvesters.

You experience the practical side of TK knowledge when you're out there, surrounded with the atmosphere, the events, smells, sounds, sights, and all those other things you notice. That's when the TK starts coming back

to you. Sometimes something happens, and then you just remember something that was told to you. Under these kinds of situations, under these kinds of circumstances, this is how you should conduct yourself and this is what you should do. Sometimes it's life threatening.



Photo credit: Parks Canada

Sometimes you can either work for 10 hours or work for three. I prefer to work for three, based on the TK, rather than learning the hard way, through 10 hours of personal experiences. And as a harvester, you can combine the two. It cuts down on a lot of time and time is very precious. To be out on the land, to be with your family, to teach, to pass on certain things is very important to us. My time is very important to me.

A lot of this TK relates to the environment because that's what you live in. You've got four different seasons; you've got to understand them. The shoulder seasons, both the start and the end of them, are the ones that you've got to be a little bit more cautious about. Right in the season itself, everything is normal. You have to understand both the resources and the habits of the wildlife you're targeting. Like right now, I don't go and hunt snow geese in January. You'd be wasting the time. Knowing the resources that are there and the times and seasons is important. The time frames we have to harvest those species is very short, so attention is really given to those times and the wildlife that you're connected with. Right now, I am not thinking about snow geese hunting. I am thinking about my trapline. I am thinking about the resources that I'm targeting right now. This is what happens with harvesters. You've got to go out and target, and you don't deviate from that. Changing takes time out of your life and your efforts are not as successful.



Photo credit: James Hawkings

As harvesters, we also keep track of events, because those are changes that are going on. We are seeing a lot of that right now. Harvesting is not only hunting and trapping. When we're out there, there are a lot of times when we've got enough of what you need, we just observe the wildlife. In our traditional culture, when that happens, your mind and everything is set on just observing. The wildlife gets very tame. They can sense they are not being harvested and you get a chance to really observe them. Because they are doing natural things, because they don't feel threatened. We get that opportunity sometimes to observe and just to see the behaviour and the habits, and say, "I've never seen that animal do that before." And when you go home, you go to an elder and talk about it. Then TK starts coming from them.

There's so much TK in the minds of harvesters. Sometimes somebody has to push the button like in a computer, and the information can come out. That's the kind of TK that I think you are trying to tap into right now. You've got to push the right buttons, so that harvesters will be able to share the knowledge that they've got for that specific time and for that specific enquiry.

I think the IFA speaks for itself. It was the elders who contributed a lot of knowledge to get us where we are. Because of them, these kinds of conferences are set up. Sometimes we get so caught up in the work that we're doing, that we forget to say where we come from. To me, my history and my culture, where I come from, the kind of people that lived before me and what they contributed, what they did physically and

mentally and how they adapted to the changes that were going on are important. It helps me try to adapt. All my life I have been adapting to changes and trying to direct my life to make sure that the harvesters are taking part in what's going on in regards to environment and wildlife.

One of the biggest things for the elders in negotiating the IFA was the wildlife issues. That's why you see the Joint Secretariat and the wildlife management boards set up the way they are. In the past, before the IFA, as harvesters we were impacted environmentally, economically, and socially. We were impacted by the governments and industry. Before negotiations, the government was telling us, "Look, we can look after the land and the wildlife, that's our job." But during the negotiations, we said, "Well, that's your job, but you're not doing it very well. You are lacking and we lost a lot. There have been a lot of impacts on us and we never got compensation for it. We're the ones, as harvesters, that suffer."

Things started changing when development started impacting the environment and the wildlife. So the co-management bodies were talked about and we said, "We want to be involved in wildlife management as harvesters." And that's where the co-management bodies come in. Everybody saying, "This is what you can contribute. You can bring in the TK at board levels. We'll appoint people that can contribute and bring certain knowledge to the table." The government can bring in the technical, scientific, biological, justice side, and regulation side. We have to work together. This is what the co-management bodies are all about - trying to find ways to better manage the wildlife and the environment. And we have tried, as Inuvialuit, to take a real meaningful part in wildlife management. We still have some goals to achieve which I'm going to be speaking about a little bit here.

There have been a lot of changes going on in harvesting activity. Within the last number of years, as a harvester, we really had to adjust because of the changes. This is where our food comes from. This is my living. This is how I pay my bills - from resources are out there that I can

tap into. And when conditions start changing, it starts affecting the bottom line as an income. I can get enough food. That's OK. But when you are using the land as a source of income, it starts affecting your ability to maintain the equipment you need to be out there and active on the land. The biggest struggle for harvesters is maintaining equipment.



Photo credit: Herschel Island Park Rangers

It's one of the really overriding issues that harvesters think about. "Do I have my skidoo ready? Do I have my boat and motor ready?" Then the next question is the gas and oil. Those are big ticket items for us. With the gas prices going up the way they are, people are saying, "I want to be out there, but I've got no gas." That's one of the things that harvesters really have to deal with.

Harvesters are also focused on the governments and the other agencies that affect their lives. I am involved with some of the wildlife management issues, because they are affecting my life. They are affecting my children. If they are going to have the lifestyle I have, they are going to have live with the laws, regulations and legislation that we're helping put together through the co-management bodies. We've got no choice but to get involved with it. Personally, I think that I'm blessed and I'm cursed. I'm blessed because I can take part in the changes going on. I'm cursed because knowing what I know, takes me away from the land and from where my heart is. The heart of a harvester is being out there. It's being free, just to be out there - no noise, no nothing. This year was the first time I really enjoyed trapping alone. My boy said he wants to come out with me, but I said, "Look, I feel like doing this alone." I just

want to be out there by myself every opportunity I get. And so, this is what I've been doing since the fall.

There have been a lot of changes in the climate and changes in wildlife behaviour. I'm just going to go over some of them. Fishing is very important to us, especially during the summer to make dry fish. To me dry fish are very important because they are a source of not only food, but of income. People who are working for industry or government don't have time to go out there and fish. They are saying, "Boogie, I want 50 whitefish. I want 60 herring dried fish." And so, you get orders. Other people are doing that too. Not just me. So because of the opportunity for a harvester to generate a certain income, fish behaviour is very important. We target them in July, when drying is good for the fish and they can dry properly. The timeframe is already getting shortened - two or three weeks - where you can do it properly. Sometimes they are late to come. When they come, you're going to have a run lasting for about three days. Then they kind of quit, and then, they run again. So, the patterns change.



Photo credit: Michelle Christensen

The hunting of migratory birds is also changing. When we go out there for long trips, it costs us a lot in time and money. Instead of waiting out there for five days to get a load, sometimes you are waiting for weeks. You can imagine the kind of time that's taken out of a harvester's life because of the changes that are going on. The behaviour of the beluga whaling is starting to change. I noticed it this summer. They are going out a lot quicker and taking a little longer to come back. When you are out there on the

spot, it's okay. But when you are traveling from a community like Tuk, 16 miles to hunt the beluga and the behaviour is changing, sometimes you come back with nothing. Usually harvesters go out there and come back the same day. So what's happening is that you are going out there, making three or four trips, and coming back to town with nothing because the whales went out to deeper water far too quick.



Photo credit: Department of Fisheries and Oceans

The thaw in the springtime this year was a lot earlier all over the place, really early. It was a late freeze up too. I wanted to be out on the trapline in the middle of October, like normal, but I couldn't get out there 'til almost the 20th of November because of the ice conditions. These are the kinds of things we are noticing. When you are out hunting on the floe edge, you notice that the ice conditions are changing out there. You don't know if you should be going out. Normally, you can, depending on the thickness of the ice. You conduct yourself according to what you're seeing and what you're noticing. When you are going out further and further and further from the shoreline, there is a certain point where you are saying "Okay, that's far enough." There's a chance, while you are out there, that you might get drifted out. There are a lot of changes that are going on that we're starting to notice.

One big issue we have as harvesters is that we used to know how to predict and capitalize on those windows of opportunity for the wildlife in the different seasons. We knew about those things. We could say, "Well, I am going to be out there, and this is what I expect to get," and you do get it. When I first started trapping, I could build a snow house, an igloo. The snow

was proper. The texture and everything, the snowfall, everything was proper and normal. But right now if you go out there and you try to build an igloo, even in January, you can't find the proper snow. I think that there has to be some kind of documentation to use as a benchmark.

Sometimes in our history, through our traditional knowledge, we say, "Well, summer came, but it never came, because a lot of snow never melted. It was just too cold." And sometimes it's too hot. There were the odd times you have that, but not year after year after year. Changes don't occur like that. Those kinds of events are abnormal and you notice them. Then the knowledge would be passed on in regards to how they adapted to that so that we could draw on that TK to adapt if those events happen again. If there was documentation before the 1970's about environmental conditions of each season and the behavior of the wildlife under normal circumstances, you have a base to say, "This is how it was." A benchmark to say, "Well, since that time, there have been a lot of changes," and you can start seeing the natural state as it was. They call it the "pristine". If you are looking at wildlife and you are going to have development, you want to know the pristine conditions at the time when nothing was there. And you want to see also what happened when the development started, the impacts.

Something that should be targeted is to document the TK while people are still remembering those days. It's a challenge to do that. Industry and governments should do their part in helping to document it so that you've got a benchmark in saying, "Okay, this is how it was". Then you have something to compare it to.

The scientific community is trying to tap into the TK, with the all the research and all the activities going on. I think that's something that we've been trying to do. You hear about "TK, TK, TK, TK"; but how much do you really learn about it from when we talk about it? The only opportunities we have are when we come to conferences like this or to co-management boards. You sit there and you share it. Sometimes it's a real challenge to a person like

me. When I sit across the table with somebody and you're talking about a certain species, and they're saying, "Well, what do you guys know about it?" And you sort of repeat everything all over again.

Sometimes I sit there and I'm wondering, "What? I've been meeting with these guys, and we've talked about this issue so many times and they still ask for the same information. How much are they really receiving? How much is sinking into their heads?" And it's almost an embarrassment to somebody like me to continue to repeat TK, the same TK information. The challenge is sometimes I feel like saying, "Well, you asked me what I know about TK. We talked about it before. What do you know? What do you know from the information of the past that we've given you? What you don't mention, what you don't bring forward on the table, we'll fill it in."



Photo credit: Herschel Island Park Rangers

It's like a teacher. When you are teaching somebody, a teacher takes a student and they say, "Well, we are going to teach you this and this and this," and you give them lessons, and then, you give them a test to see how much they actually received and sunk into their minds. That's how a teacher tests somebody that they're trying to teach. As a harvester, I think we are trying to teach students, the scientific community – biologists, governments. I don't know how much they're actually receiving what we contribute. I don't know if they understand about the time and the effort we take to be involved so that the Inuvialuit voice is heard in relation to the wildlife, environment and harvesting issues. This is a real challenge for the scientific community to deal with. There should be a way to get information

from each harvester that's out there seeing the changes- erosion problems, climate change, and animal behaviour. There should be a way to compare it with the scientific findings. If you want to tap into those resources, I don't think that you have to buy a big ticket item like a Skidoo for somebody. The harvester will be glad if you pay some of the gas to be out there to get that information.

If a harvester is going to be out there for three months, and you're interested in knowing that area and what's out there and you want to document it, there should be some kind of contribution to help the harvester to be out there. A lot of times, it's just the lack of gas and oil alone that keeps them from being out there. Maybe you can get the information you want if there's a contribution of some kind. I think we have to work together. Industry and the government need harvesters to be out there in order to get a better picture of exactly what's going on in the ISR.

The governments and industry need the harvesters to be out there so they can get a better picture of exactly what's going on. It's hard to adjust to that as a harvester. Right now, we are really adjusting. I can't draw from that TK I know to target an animal because things change. Timeframes are narrower for us. As a harvester, you are trying to adjust to that change. The wildlife is also trying to adjust to that change. You really think that we are confused about the changes that are going on with the climate and the environment? You know, the wildlife is going through the same thing we are going through. We have to adjust to the wild. As a harvester, I depend on certain species. If their behaviour changes, I've got to adjust to that change. But instead of using TK to draw from, you've got to start producing other knowledge. If somebody comes to me and says, "I want to go over there and do some fishing and do some hunting of a certain species", I can't say, "Well, you go at this time of the year and this is what you do through that whole process for two or three weeks." If I tell them that now, and they go out there, they come back and say, "You know, we barely made it." When industry comes to us and asks us, "When is the best time to go out there and do this thing?" Historically, before the 1970's, you

could hang your hat on our TK. Now, you really don't want to share that TK, because you don't know. If something goes wrong, they're saying, "Oh, your TK was nothing. We followed your advice and this is the problem that we face."

Even as harvesters, we are going through that change. It's very important for me to try to understand the change in behaviour, the change in the patterns of wildlife and to adjust to that for a number of years and see if it's going to become stable. Once it become stable, then you can start to say, "Okay, it's been like this for so long. It's been tried, it's been proven to a certain extent, and this is the advice I will give you." I think that's the state we are in right now as harvesters. We're adjusting right now in relation to the changes in behavior of wildlife and the environmental that are going on.



Photo credit: Cameron Eckert

You are going to see us, as harvesters, taking a real equal and meaningful part. That is one of the goals of the IFA - to take an equal and meaningful part in what's going on in the area. I think that's something you are going to have to consider here and find a way to tap into that knowledge that TK has. You can only do that through brainstorming or in a workshop of some kind with people who say, "Okay, this is what we can contribute. If this is what you need, this is what we can contribute". I think that's something you are going to have to try to work with.

The IFA has opened a door for us to do this. The Inuvialuit have business opportunities through the development corporations that look after training, business opportunities, and employment opportunities. The Joint Secretariat and the co-management boards are

dealing with wildlife issues. Anybody that wants to can be involved. There is no shortage of positions, if you've got the training, the knowledge, and can focus yourself on being active. I'd like to see Inuvialuit biologists. I'd like to see Inuvialuit environmental training that has academic level training and certificates, because that's what we need. This is something that is close to the hearts of harvesters and I think that Inuvialuit should really get involved in those kinds of positions.

How am I benefiting as harvester right now? I'm not benefiting from the government. I am not benefiting from industry. I'm certainly benefiting from being in the co-management boards, but a lot of harvesters are not. The only income and revenue that they are getting is from the land. I had to make a choice in my life about my time. And when I was getting involved with the co-management boards again, I said to both Game Council and the IRC, "Look, I can help you to a certain extent. I'm going to give the Inuvialuit organizations three months of time out of my life a year. Nine months is my own time. These are the decisions that I have to make as a harvester and as a person. I've got knowledge and resources that I draw from, from my involvement in the negotiations and implementation and from being a harvester.

We've had the IFA for the last 25 years. I think that a lot of people are focused on getting involved. But it takes a little while for people to grow up. As a child, you can only do so much. You can push your child, when he's about five years old and he sits on his bum on the floor. You try to do that when he's 14 and you hardly move him. I think that our people, in these last 25 years, have grown up. So you can be pushed, but you won't fall down. I think if you keep pushing them, they'll push back.

I think there's that growth there. There's that maturity and you're able to take a meaningful part in decisions and be confident about it. The IFA has opened that opportunity for us.



Photo credit: Herschel Island Park Rangers

We've tried to protect our land and our wildlife in our negotiations. If you take a look at the IFA, the land selected was in really critical habitat areas that are connected very closely to the hearts of the people who live in this settlement area. We could only select a certain amount of land but there were still other important areas to be protected. We thought about alternate ways to protect the environment and wildlife that are close to people and harvesters. We agreed to setting up parks. Now you can see those parks we've talked about. We have marine protected areas, too. This is how we tried to protect the ISR. Any activity that goes on, whether it's in the scientific world, the industrial, or government has to go through the co-management boards. They go through environmental screening and through environmental review if they have to. This means that the Inuvialuit have a voice for anything that goes on in the ISR and that's important to us.

Right now, as harvesters, we've got to continue life. Whether there are changes or not, we don't say, "Well, I am going to wait until things settle down, and then, I'm going to go back out there." There are people still out there, and they will continue to try to be out there and generate an income for themselves.

I'd like to challenge the scientific community and the people in governments to try to engage the harvesters. Find a way to get together. The attitude I've got is a harvester's because my life and the lives of other harvesters depends on it. Other harvesters could probably live with being involved with governments, industry and with co-management boards, as I have. But there are

certain times when enough is enough. How much is enough, that's a big question right now. Like I mentioned, for me, three months belongs to Inuvialuit and nine months is mine. Three months is enough to me. I can't do more than that.

It's the same with the environment right now. How much activity can take place before you are really hurting the environment, the wildlife and the lives of harvesters? That's something that has to be really talked about. The best way to do that is to engage the harvesters to be involved. Because like you were mentioning, scientists and biologists that travel to different bush camps say, "Well, we feel so welcome. When we get there, they look after us." Harvesters are like that. Because what the scientists are trying to learn is affecting their life, and their voices need to start to be heard. I came to this conference. Biologists and scientists should go to the harvesters' environment. That's where you can learn. That's where you can get a better understanding of their situation.



Photo credit: Herschel Island Park Rangers

In closing, I would just like to mention a little event that happened in my life in regards to the wildlife and the environment. My son, Enoch, who is my helper in big game guiding, got a big kick out of it. We went on a sport hunt. We left Tuk and went to Bailey Island and we set up a camp. We set the tent up and everything and were ready to go start hunting. Dogs are there. Skidoos are there. And Enoch, my boy, is with me there. The hunter and I are standing outside and looking at the camp, and looking at the dogs, and looking at everything there, and he's taking a picture. And I looked at him and I said,

"Well, welcome to my home." The hunter looked at me and he says, "Your home? I thought your home was in Tuk." I said, "As a harvester, wherever you lay your head and camp, that's your home. Welcome to my home." I pointed to the land, and I said, "This is my back yard. Look at the ocean where we are going to hunt the polar bear. This is my front yard." Harvesters are like that. Our homes, as a harvester, may be in the community, but your real home is where you set yourself up for that season and for that time.



Photo credit: Michelle Christensen