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Community Benefits

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Serving the
communities of

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Arctic Bay

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Cape Dorset

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Clyde River

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Grise Fiord

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Hall Beach

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Igloolik

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Iqaluit

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Kimmirut

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Pangnirtung

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Pond Inlet

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Qikiqtarjuaq

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Resolute Bay

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Sanikiluaq

According to CAH, the Arctic Watch Lodge has been in operation since 1992. Recently, residents of Resolute have become increasingly frustrated by the lack of community involvement by the company. Over the past several years CAH has failed to meet with residents of Resolute to discuss the operations at the Arctic Lodge. Most importantly, residents are frustrated that there are no longer direct benefits to Resolute even though the Lodge is operating no more than 80 kilometers away. CAH does not currently offer any employment to local residents nor does it indicate any plans to do so in the future. Furthermore, prior to the construction of the airstrip on Inuit Owned Land, Arctic Watch Tourists would make a stopover in Resolute for refueling, offering local businesses the opportunity to benefit. That practice has since been replaced by the use of direct flights from Yellowknife, bypassing Resolute altogether.

As this project occurs during the summer months and so close to Resolute, it would be very easy for CAH to put in place a summer student employment program to provide valuable experience to some young local Inuit residents.

In addition to the fact that local Inuit are not benefiting from this project in any way, many Resolute Community Lands and Resource Committee (CLARC) members feel that the CAH operations have been having a detrimental effect on local wildlife populations. QIA would like to point out that CAH activities are not only restricted to confines of the Lodge and accommodations on site. Tourists visiting the CAH also use many trails and waterways during their 1 to 2 week stays which undoubtedly cause an impact to local populations of whales, muskox and caribou.

Community Consultation

As with all projects in the region, it is important that QIA and local residents are made aware of ongoing project activities at regular intervals. QIA is of the opinion that meeting with local residents goes a long way to reduce community unease with projects. During meetings between QIA and the Resolute CLARC on July 22nd and 23rd 2013, there were many questions raised by community members related to the current activities taking place at the Arctic Lodge. QIA feels that it is very important that CAH meet with Resolute residents including the CLARC members prior to operations beginning in a given year. Furthermore, it is of utmost importance that the community is also given a briefing at the end of operations that includes a summary of wildlife sightings and interactions. QIA also suggests that CAH make every effort to schedule their project activities appropriately based on information acquired from consultation with local residents, so as to ensure that project activities will not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities.

