



NIRB File No.: 07YN019
NPC File No.: 148322
NRI File No.: 02 023 16R-M

September 29, 2016

The Honourable Paul Quassa
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: pquassa@gov.nu.ca; gellsworth@gov.nu.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of McGill University's "An Investigation of the Sensitivity of High Arctic Permafrost to Climate Change" Project Proposal

Dear Mr. Paul Quassa:

On July 7, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received McGill University's (the Proponent) "An Investigation of the Sensitivity of High Arctic Permafrost to Climate Change" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Within the referral, the NPC indicated that the proposal required screening due to significant modification to the original project proposal. Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of its written report for the screening of this project amendment proposal, NIRB File No. 07YN019.

Following receipt of the project proposal, the NIRB undertook a preliminary completeness check and found that the proposal did not contain sufficient information for the NIRB to permit proper screening. Pursuant to subsection 144(1) of the NuPPAA, on July 21, 2016 the NIRB requested that the Proponent provide the additional information in support of this proposal to the Board, followed by a second information request on August 16, 2016. On August 17, 2016 the NIRB received the required information; however, due to technical issues the NIRB was unable to process the information in a timely manner and was subsequently delayed in finishing its completeness check. On September 1, 2016 the NIRB distributed the amendment proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties requesting comments by September 12, 2016. The project proposal is currently with the Board for its decision-making. As a result of the additional time required to ensure that the submission of additional information was complete, as well as the time to allow the Board to fully consider the amendment, the NIRB requires additional time to complete the screening.

Please be advised that all information pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project amendment proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca by using any of the following search criteria:

- Project Name: Addition of a training component to Nunavut Research Licence No 02 023 16R-M
- NIRB File No.: 07YN019
- Application No.: 124692

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this amendment proposal within the 45 days as set out in the NuPPAA. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this amendment proposal will be completed by **October 7, 2016** at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister(s) for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Wayne Pollard, McGill University
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Robert Chapple, Community and Government Services – Government of Nunavut
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada