



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 07YN019**

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

October 11, 2016

Mosha Cote
Manager, Research Liaison
Nunavut Arctic College
P.O. Box 1720
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for McGill University's "An Investigation of the Sensitivity of High Arctic Permafrost to Climate Change" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region, NIRB File No. 07YN019

Dear Mosha Cote,

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Paul Quassa, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College for McGill's "An Investigation of the Sensitivity of High Arctic Permafrost to Climate Change" in the Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region, dated October 11, 2016.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister(s) that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of section 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Donna Tikhak, NIRB Environmental Administrator at (867) 983-4621 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Donna Tikhak
Environment Administrator

cc: Wayne Pollard McGill University
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Salamonie Shoo, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 07YN019)