



# NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 19YN016

Project Name: The “Peat Expansion in Arctic Tundra (Baffin Island) - Pattern, Process and the Implication for the Carbon Cycle” project

Proponent Name: Bowdoin College

Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Public Registry: [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) Application No.: 125456

Comment Deadline: **April 24, 2019**

## PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Peat Expansion in Arctic Tundra (Baffin Island) - Pattern, Process and the Implication for the Carbon Cycle” project is located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region, approximately 400 kilometres (km) from Iqaluit. The Proponent intends to conduct a study focusing on the response of Arctic ecosystems to climate warming, including effects on carbon uptake by wetland vegetation and soils or peat ‘patches’. The program is proposed to take place from July 2019. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of helicopter for aerial reconnaissance of each research area to determine preferred sampling location;
- Use of two (2) hand-held soil corers to obtain at least ten (10) soil samples (10 cm x 150 cm each) per location
- Collection of vegetation samples for export to the United States of America (USA)
- Installation of one (1) 200 cm x 100 cm meteorological station at each location for a period of 2 to 3 days

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **19YN016** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

**You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:**

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca).** Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Erin Reimer, Technical Advisor I toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or [ereimer@nirb.ca](mailto:ereimer@nirb.ca).