

March 16, 2026

Eleanor McEwan  
Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours  
501 University Crescent  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N6

Sent via email: [Eleanor.mcewan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:Eleanor.mcewan@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

**Re: Acknowledgement of the 2025 Annual Report for Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours’ “Arctic Bay Small Craft Harbour Development” Project**

Dear Eleanor McEwan:

Please be advised that the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Fisheries and Oceans Canada – Small Craft Harbours’ (DFO-SCH) 2025 Annual Report<sup>1</sup> for the “Arctic Bay Small Craft Harbour Development” project on March 13, 2026, as required pursuant to the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements 1<sup>i</sup> of the Screening Decision Report<sup>2</sup>, dated October 4, 2021.

Following its review of the submission, the NIRB has concluded that DFO-SCH's 2025 Annual Report for the "Arctic Bay Small Craft Harbour Development" project contains the information as required per condition 1 and that there are no deficiencies to note.

Sincerely,

*Wann*

Varun Nayak, EPt  
Monitoring Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Environment and Climate Change Canada General Inbox  
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Peter Unger, Natural Resources Canada  
Transport Canada General Inbox

<sup>1</sup> NIRB Doc ID: 360031

<sup>2</sup> NIRB Doc ID: 336931

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1. The Proponent shall submit a comprehensive annual report with copies provided to the Nunavut Impact Review Board and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (regulatory branch), by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year through construction, beginning March 31, 2022, and a Final Report following completion of the construction activities. This reporting should be coordinated with the reporting occurring in compliance with the Fisheries Act Authorization. The annual report must contain at least the following information:
- a) A summary of activities undertaken for the year, including:
    - a description of local hires, contracting opportunities and initiatives.
    - site photos;
    - any monitoring activities carried out, specifically including monitoring of effects on the marine environment (including but not limited to noise generated by in-water works);
  - b) A work plan for the following year, including any progressive reclamation work undertaken;
  - c) A summary of community consultations undertaken throughout the year, providing copy of materials presented to community members, a description of issues and concerns raised, discussions with community members and advice offered to the company as well as any follow-up actions that were required or taken to resolve any concerns expressed about the project proposal;
  - d) A log of instances in which community residents occupy or transit through the project area for the purpose of traditional land use or harvesting. This log should include the location and number of people encountered, activity being undertaken (e.g., berry picking, fishing, hunting, camping, etc.), date and time; and any mitigation measures or adaptive management undertaken to prevent disturbance;
  - e) A discussion of issues related to wildlife and environmental monitoring, including the number of cease-work orders required as a result of proximity marine mammals and any other wildlife;
  - f) A brief summary of Wildlife Monitoring and Management Plan results as well as any mitigation actions that were undertaken. In addition, the Proponent shall maintain a record of wildlife observations while operating within the project area and include it as part of the summary report. The summary report based on wildlife observations should include the following:
    - 1. Locations (i.e., latitude and longitude), species, number of animals, a description of the animal activity, and a description of the gender and age of animals if possible.
    - 2. Prior to conducting project activities, the Proponent should map the location of any sensitive wildlife sites including marine habitat areas in the project area, and identify the timing of critical life history events (i.e., calving, migration, mating, denning and nesting).
    - 3. Additionally, the Proponent should indicate potential impacts from the project, and ensure that operational activities are managed and modified to avoid impacts on wildlife and sensitive sites.
  - g) An analysis of the effectiveness of mitigation measures for wildlife;
  - h) Summary of any heritage sites encountered during the exploration activities, any follow-up action or reporting required as a result and how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on the heritage sites;
  - i) Summary of its knowledge of Inuit land use in/near the project area and explain how project activities were modified to mitigate impacts on Inuit land use; and
  - j) A summary of how the Proponent has complied with conditions contained within this Screening Decision, and all conditions as required by other authorizations associated with the project proposal.