NIRB File No.: 22YN005
NPC File No.: 149677

April 1, 2022

To: The Honourable Minister Pamela Gross
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: pgross6@gov.nu.ca and aakoak6@gov.nu.ca

Re: Screening Decision for the University of Waterloo's "Measuring Glacier and Snow Changes in Grise Fiord" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

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Dear Honourable Minister:

On February 2, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen the University of Waterloo's (UW) "Measuring Glacier and Snow Changes in Grise Fiord" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada* (*Nunavut Agreement*) and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB commenced screening this project proposal and assigned it file number **22YN005**.

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of UW's "Measuring Glacier and Snow Changes in Grise Fiord" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated April 1, 2022, to the responsible Minister. The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125654.

Please note that, the Board only directly addresses these notice letters to those individuals considered to be a "responsible Minister with decision-making authority" for the project as set out under the *NuPPAA*. However, regulatory authorities and other authorizing agencies associated with a proposed project (e.g. Regional Inuit Associations, Nunavut Water Board) will continue to be copied on the Notice of Release of the Screening Decision Report. The NIRB is providing these parties with notice and access to the Board's Screening Decision Report as required under s. 200(2) and in support of these parties in the fulfillment of their responsibilities under the *NuPPAA* and the *Nunavut Agreement* to address, and as appropriate, implement, to the fullest extent possible, any relevant NIRB recommendations contained in the Screening Decision Report.

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister and the NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

M. Kaluraq

Kaviq Kaluraq
Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 22YN005 (April 1, 2022)

cc: Olayuk Akesuk, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
The Honourable Dan Vandal, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada