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Subject: [EXTERNAL] NIRB Hearing in Pond Inlet Today
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Good Day NIRB - today I wanted to speak at the Pond Inlet Hearings about Baffinland Iron Mine (BIM) but I was given no time to do so sadly. I remember at the last hearing too, not getting a chance to respond to BIM after waiting for hours or days with no prevail. For a hearing that is so IMPORTANT and is affecting the people of Pond Inlet so severely and could most likely cut the Pond Inlet animal lives or levels to fatal levels, why are the people of Pond Inlet not given more time to talk at these hearings? It's unjust and needs to be changed.

It feels like the urgency of the BIM to stay open is set at a higher priority over the negative effects this mine can have on Inuit land, waters and people so these hearing processes are not communicated clearly and the hearing times are cut to a bare minimal time period. Perhaps NIRB has incorporated rules of other review boards from southern Canada, but Nunavut is not like the rest of the country and should be given special allowances to give more time for these hearings. Many Inuit are married to their land and rely heavily on the land/ocean for survival, happiness and peace. Many Inuit do not live or want to live an urban lifestyle, nor can they just hope in their cars to do so like southern Canada does. The land, animals and waters are everything to the survival of Inuit culture. NIRB who is placed out of the City of Iqaluit should remember this fully when making their final ruling about the hearing today.

Coming from a background in psychology, I can't help but notice the responses and the BIM body language given during this meeting. The constant verbal reminders to Inuit on just how much BIM has done for Inuit financially or with donations ... spewing off numbers at every chance they can get .. but Inuit are the ones with the land, the ore and the price to pay if anything goes wrong because of this mine.

I also noticed BIM told the MHTO that they were abandoning Phase 2 and then NOT tell anyone else the same story? As I mentioned before, many Inuit hunters from Pond feel like they are in a **flight or fight response**. Norman Inootik reiterated this fact during his speech today at the hearing. Inuit have experienced trauma to our land and waters, HUGE loss of our animals, and changes in our lives which Nunavut must protect. We find ourselves doing things we never thought we would do like the Inuit Blockade against BIM in 2021.

BIM says there are surveys done to support their "positive outcomes" that narwhal are not decreasing in numbers for the Pond Inlet area, but you also have to be careful with surveys as the results of the surveys can be easily skewed. This is something very much taught to psychological students at university under Qualitative and Quantitate Methodology. Just take numbers from an area the gives BIM the best results in their favour and present the facts as gossip. From what I noticed today for example, BIM used their surveys findings as accurate over the findings repeatedly stated by hunters such as Joshua Katsak, Norman Inootik and many other hunters today.

I feel Inuit are being wilfully denied participation in these hearings due to time constants placed and rules set out limiting outside participation to Pond Inlet members away from home during the time of the hearing. ALL the ownership seems to be put onto Inuit without making BIM accountable because the message sent is all in the wording still. Why are the GN, the GOC and QIA still allowing BIM to treat or communicate to Inuit in this manipulative and obviously strategical way to control the setting or tone of these events? It's **brainwashing**. I realize BIM has a strategy carefully planned to achieve a specific end, a statement of terms, which if rejected will result in a breakdown in relations but what I also wanted to point out is Nunavut has to be careful about what type of relationships they are entering into. No matter how much money NU is given, does NU really want to enter into that type of manipulative relationship

with an outside business?

It feels like Inuit are being told to LEAN on BIM to survive, that Nunavut cannot do it on our own with the help of BIM's money. As an Inuk single parent myself, I believe you can survive without staying in an abusive relationship such as this but do things in a more free, healthy, productive, and careful manner. Although this relationship between BIM and Pond or North Baffin is not a marriage between two human beings, it is still an intimate one as the Inuit are heavily connected to their land, and not just using the environment for the time period of mining purposes. If a person was in an abusive relationship, that person would not be expected to stay in that abusive relationship just for the money. The same should go for Nunavut - Nunavut should NOT be expected to stay with BIM just for the money. Nunavut already is spread ultra thin after years of colonization and lack of mental health supports in the process of these traumatic events to adapt to Caucasian living in the north. Imagine what the manipulation pressure of BIM will do to Inuit now, ESPECIALLY if the mine devastates the Pond Inlet area for example. If NIRB really CARES about the Inuit of Pond Inlet, they should give more time to Inuit to figure things about before RUSHING to agree to more tonnes of iron ore being processed by BIM. Not just days but years. NIRB stands for NUNAVUT Impact Review Board, NOT Baffinland Impact Review Board. Please remember this fact, and if I still could find that red bottom to push in case of emergencies, I'd be doing so right now for the people of Pond Inlet. Thank you. Anita Uttuvak - Pond Inlet Citizen