



NIRB File No.: 12MN036

August 15, 2023

Junna Ehloak  
Community Liaison Officer, Cambridge Bay  
P.O. Box 18  
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Sent via email : [clocambay@kitia.ca](mailto:clocambay@kitia.ca)

**Re: Invitation to Appoint Community Representatives to Participate in the Community Roundtable and Pre-Hearing Conference for the NIRB's Assessment of Sabina Gold and Silver Corp. (B2Gold)'s "Back River Project Energy Centre" Project Proposal**

**Appointment Due Date: September 8, 2023**

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Dear Junna Ehloak:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) is holding a Community Roundtable as part of the Board's assessment of Sabina Gold and Silver Corp.'s (Sabina) submission of the "Energy Centre" project proposal, a proposed amendment to the approved Back River Gold Mine Project (NIRB File No.: 12MN036; Project Certificate No. 007). The Community Roundtable will be held **in Cambridge Bay on October 3-5, 2023.**

All information relating to Sabina's Energy Centre Proposal can be accessed online from the NIRB's Public Registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125740](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125740).

This letter is an invitation for the **Kitikmeot Inuit Association** to select **one (1)** community representative to attend the **Community Roundtable and Pre-hearing Conference in Cambridge Bay.** This is an opportunity to express the views of your community at the Community Roundtable and Pre-hearing Conference sessions.

**Community Roundtable Sessions:** October 3-5, 2023  
**Project Title:** Back River Project Energy Centre  
**Proposed by:** Sabina Gold and Silver Corp. c/o B2Gold

Members of the community have important knowledge that is critical to the NIRB's impact assessment process as community members provide Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit through discussions about the project proposal. **The Community Roundtable will help the Board gain a better understanding of each community's views, perspectives, and knowledge about the Energy Centre.**

Please note that nominating community representatives for the NIRB is a separate process from the Participant Funding provided by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC). Your organization's nomination for NIRB community representatives **should be different individuals than any already attending the meetings**. NIRB community representatives are expected to speak for the broad views of the community and the organization they were nominated by during the Community Roundtable Sessions. If your organization has received Participant Funding from CIRNAC to participate in the NIRB's meetings, those individuals will be required to cover their travel and accommodation costs using their Participant Funding.

The individuals selected as community representatives do not need to be elected officials or staff persons from your organization and the NIRB encourages that appointed individuals be members of the general public including women, youth, and elders so the Board can hear the broad perspectives of the community. It is also important that the appointed representatives be comfortable speaking on behalf of your organization and/or community and asking questions publicly. To encourage coordination and ensure all appointments occur, the NIRB is contacting the other organizations and groups in your community to invite participants to the Community Roundtable.

**Please note, the NIRB does not provide any honoraria payments for community representatives. See *Appendix D* for more information.**

Once the representatives are selected by your organization, please provide them with all of the information in this letter:

- 1) *Appendix A* includes directions on the community representatives' role during the Community Roundtable.
- 2) *Appendix B* contains a description of the proposal;
- 3) *Appendix C* is required to designate the appointed representative; and

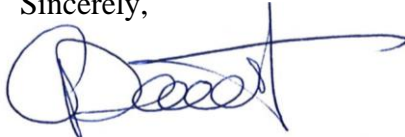
Please have the community representative complete the following forms and submit them to the NIRB office at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax (867) 983-2594 by **September 8, 2023**:

1. Community Representative Information Form (attached *Appendix C*).

Thank you in advance for selecting representatives to participate in the NIRB's Community Roundtable and we look forward to working with your selected representatives throughout the meeting.

If you have any questions about selecting community representatives for this event, please contact the undersigned by email at [gdaoust@nirb.ca](mailto:gdaoust@nirb.ca) or (867) 983-4609.

Sincerely,



Guillaume Daoust  
Technical Advisor II  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association

Attachments (7): Appendix A – Role of Community Representative  
Appendix B – Project Description  
Appendix C – Community Representative Appointment Form

## Appendix A: Community Representative's Role

As a community that may be affected by the proposed project, it is important that the representatives be present for the time allotted to their community. Members of the community have important knowledge that is critical to the NIRB's impact assessment process as community members provide Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit through discussions about the project proposal.

The Community Roundtable will be structured as follows:

LOCATION	DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE
Cambridge Bay Community Hall	October 3-5, 2023	9:00 am – 5:00 pm; 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm (evening session October 4 <sup>th</sup> )	Community Roundtable

**\* NOTE: The NIRB may extend timing of any scheduled sessions as required.**

Community representatives will be provided with opportunities to share any comments, questions, Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, or concerns with the NIRB at the Community Roundtable. The Board will consider this information when making its recommendations to the federal government regarding the "Energy Centre". As a representative, you are encouraged to speak with other members of your community or organization prior to attending the Community Roundtable to ensure a broad understanding of the community's ideas or concerns about the proposed project amendment and at a minimum, provide information on the following questions:

1. How might the environment around my community be affected?
2. How might the environment in my region be affected?
3. How might traditional activities, that either I or my community participate in, be affected or changed with the proposed amendment?
4. What are the potential changes with the proposed amendment to the already approved Back River Gold Mine Project and previously approved modifications that I am concerned about?
  - Have my concerns been addressed by the Proponent? By the NIRB? By other Regulatory Authorities such as the Kitikmeot Inuit Association or Federal Departments?
  - If my concerns have not been addressed, what suggestions do I have to address these concerns (including plans or actions to avoid or reduce a negative effect and monitoring plans)?
5. Do I support the proposed amendment? Why or why not?
6. What other questions do I have that have not been answered?
  - Is there additional information that needs to be collected?

## **Appendix B: Project Description**

The Back River Project is located approximately 400 kilometres (km) southwest of the community of Cambridge Bay, 95 km southeast of the southern end of Bathurst Inlet. As set out in the project description, Sabina has proposed a modification that would reduce consumption of non-renewable fuels for the Back River Project. Sabina noted that the proposed modification would reduce the projected fuel use at the Back River Project by approximately 50% and thus approximately 700 fewer trips annually on the Winter Ice Road from the Marine Laydown Area due to the lessened need for fuel. This would also reduce project greenhouse gas emissions. The proposal does not intend to modify any of Sabina's mining operations. The scope of activities described within the "Back River Project Energy Centre" includes the following main undertakings, works or activities:

- Construction and use of 13 Wind Turbine Generators:
  - Each rated at 4 to 4.5 Megawatts;
  - Each to have an approximate 138-meter rotor diameter with total overall height of approximately 150 meters;
  - Wind Turbine Generators to be spaced at intervals of 400 to 550 meters apart;
  - At mine closure, Wind Turbine Generators and foundations will be disposed within the approved landfill;
- Expansion of the existing Project Development Area by up to 273 hectares;
- Construction of required access roads to the Wind Turbine Generators;
- Construction of an Electrical Station and pad, approximately 400-meter by 400-meter pad adjacent to the approved Diesel Power Plant, and include:
  - Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) consisting of lithium-ion batteries contained in approximately ten (10) 40-foot seacans or an equivalent building or series of structures; and
  - a solar array of 200-meter by 400-meter;
- Installation of approximately 5 to 7 kilometers of electrical transmission lines from the Wind Turbine Generators to the Electrical Station:
  - Cables to be laid directly on tundra and/or laid next to access roads and covered with aggregate; and
  - Dependent on-site conditions, some or all the electrical transmission lines may be located overhead on poles.

**Appendix C: Community Representative Appointment Form (NIRB File No. 12MN036)**

**Event:** NIRB's Community Roundtable for Sabina Gold and Silver Corp.'s Energy Centre Project Proposal

**Dates:** October 3-5, 2023

**Community:** Cambridge Bay, NU

**Location:** Cambridge Bay Community Hall

**Representative information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ *required for providing technical support*

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Community represented: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Agency: ☐ KitIA ☐ Hamlet ☐ HTO

**The Nunavut Impact Review Board CANNOT provide honoraria to participants. It is unethical for an Institution of Public Government, such as the NIRB, to compensate representatives participating in a quasi-judicial process. Any decision to provide honoraria to a participant would be one made by the participants' representing organization, and not by the NIRB.**

I \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledge understanding that the NIRB cannot provide honoraria payment for my participation in the NIRB's Community Roundtable for Sabina's Energy Centre Project Proposal.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If the representative is less than 19 years of age, please have the Parent or Guardian complete the following section:**

Age of representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian providing permission to attend: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency contact person:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

