

# Government of Nunavut (GN)

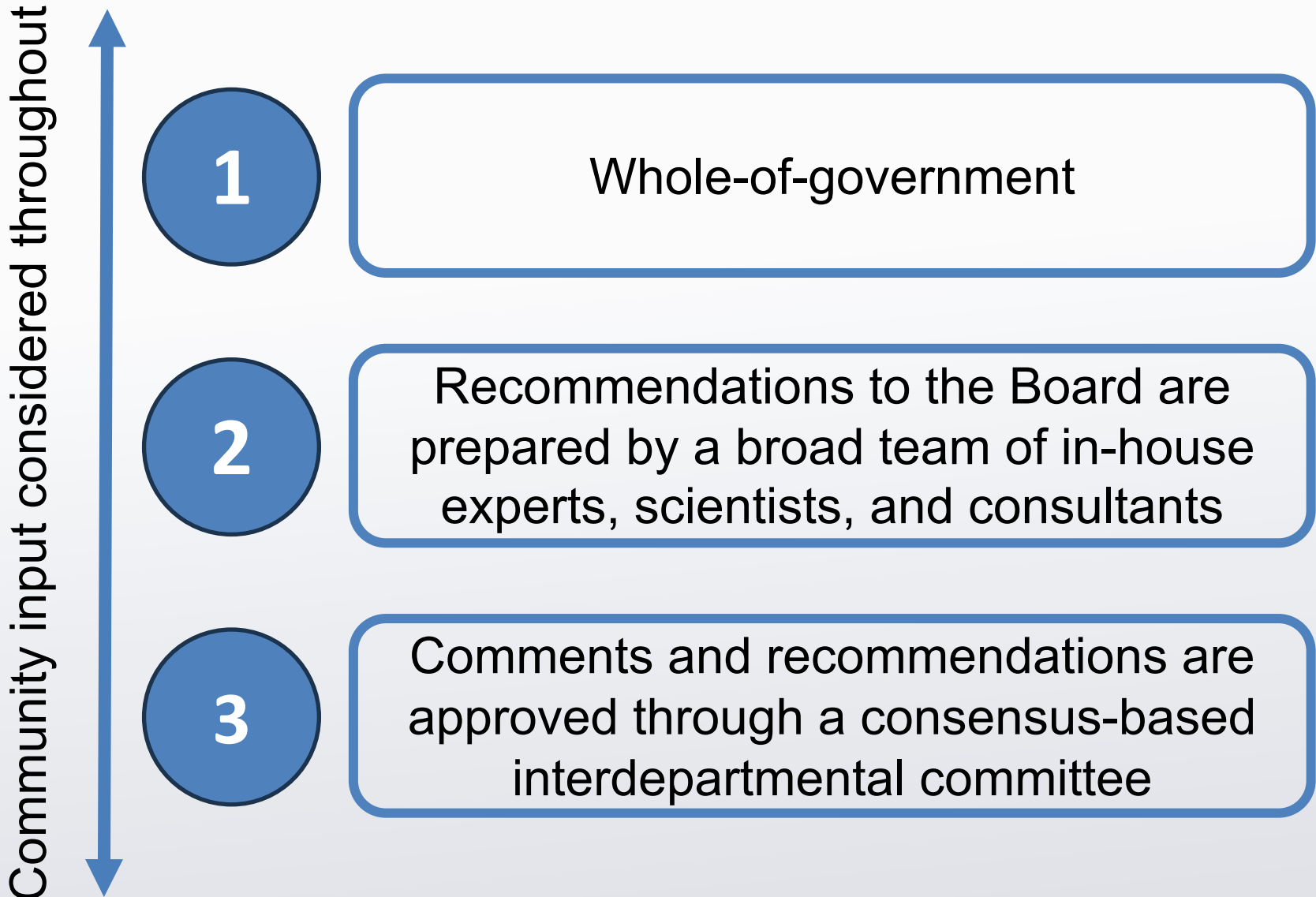
# ***KATUJJILUTA – THE GN’S MANDATE***

- Katujjiluta priorities include Reinvesting in education and Diversifying local economies
- To support these, the GN is committed to preparing Nunavummiut for participation in economic opportunities and supporting local employment and training
- Further, Pillar 4 of the GN Mining Strategy seeks to ensure that environmental impacts resulting from exploration and mining are minimized and mitigated.
- The Government of Nunavut is mandated to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat.

# PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT & INUIT QAUJIMAJATUQANGIT

- GN staff attend NIRB and Baffinland engagement sessions and read all written comments submitted
- The GN listens carefully to the position and opinions of intervenors and community participants
- The GN will continue to work with other intervenors, particularly potentially impacted hamlets, HTOs, and other community organizations

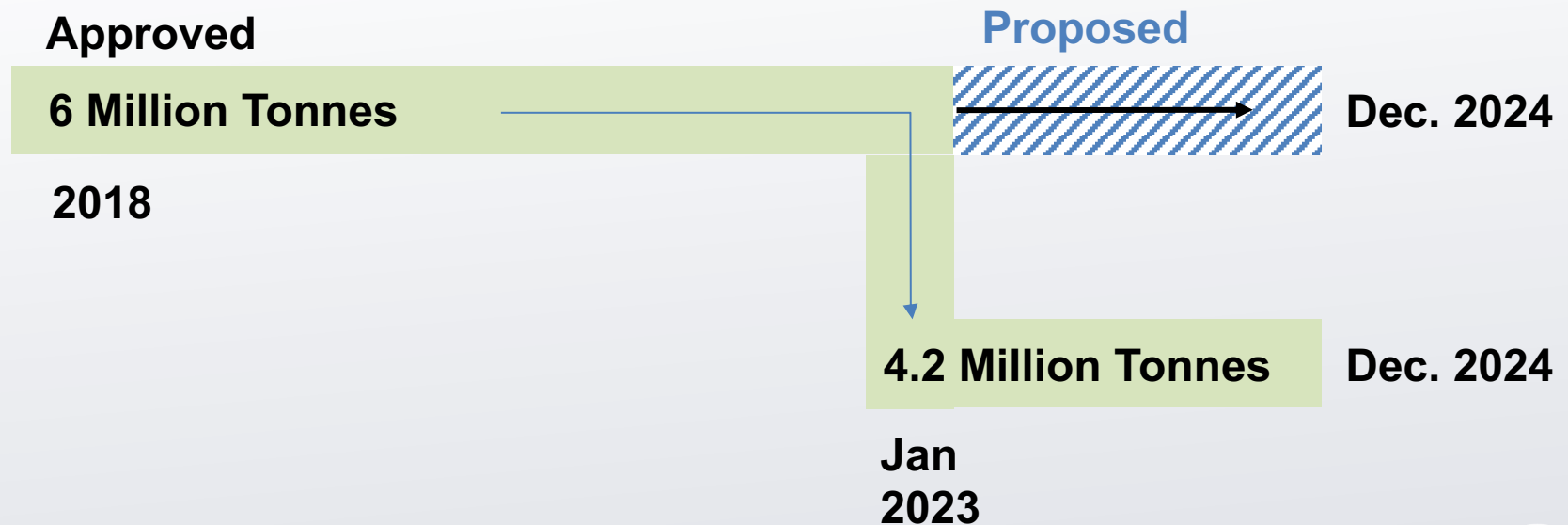
# THE GN'S REVIEW PROCESS APPROACH



# **GN REVIEW OF THE SUSTAINING OPERATIONS PROPOSAL (SOP)**

# PROPOSAL SUMMARY

**This proposal requests the extension of the approval to transport an increased amount of iron ore along the tote road to 2024.**



# 1. CONCERN ABOUT CURRENT PROTECTION OF CARIBOU

**Concern:** Current protection measures are not effectively protecting caribou.

## **GN Comments:**

- The proposed increase in transportation could negatively impact caribou movement
- Baffinland's current caribou protection measures are below the standards of other similar mining projects in Nunavut
- Baffinland often uses protection measures after caribou have been impacted

## **Baffinland Response:**

- No new effects on wildlife are expected



# 1. RECOMMENDATION FOR CURRENT PROTECTION OF CARIBOU

**GN Recommendation** – Add a new requirement that regardless of signs of disturbance, Baffinland will close the road between May 15 and July 15 when caribou presence reaches limits relating to:

- Size of the caribou herd.
- Distance of caribou from mining operations.



## 2. CONCERN ABOUT NEW CARIBOU PROTECTION MEASURES

**Concern:** The timeline of the project is unclear and there is not enough detail on new caribou protection measures.

### **GN Comments:**

- There is not enough information about protection measures for the GN to provide meaningful feedback
- It is unclear how Baffinland will protect caribou in the future

### **Baffinland Response:**

- Will change the caribou protection measures

## 2. RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW CARIBOU PROTECTION MEASURES

**GN Recommendation** – Add a requirement that Baffinland close all project activities when caribou are present depending on:

- The size of the caribou herd
- The distance of caribou from mining operations
- The sensitivity of the season for caribou
- Consider Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit + other expert advice

### 3. CONCERN ABOUT SNOW TRACK SURVEYS FOR MONITORING

**Concern:** Snow track surveys to monitor movement of caribou near mining operations are not adequate.

#### **GN Comments:**

- Snow track surveys are useful but are not being completed often enough
- Other mines in Kivalliq are surveying 2 times a week

#### **Baffinland Response:**

- The project will not have significant effects on caribou movement

### 3. RECOMMENDATION FOR SNOW TRACK SURVEYS FOR MONITORING

**GN Recommendation** – Conduct snow track surveys twice weekly when there is snow cover

# CONCLUSION

- GN Recommends:
  - Add a new requirement that Baffinland close the road between May 15-July 15 when caribou are present (under certain conditions)
  - Add a requirement that Baffinland close all project activities when caribou are present (under certain conditions)
  - Conduct snow track surveys twice weekly.
- The GN will continue to fully support the NIRB impact assessment process and work collaboratively with all stakeholders

**Thank you  
Qujanamiik**

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