

## **Future Consultation Plans for Scientific Research Project and Community Involvement**

While there are no communities or permanent inhabitants on Axel Heiberg Island, we acknowledge the significance of the land we will be working on. Building bi-directional partnerships will take time and additional funding. An NSERC Northern Research Supplement was submitted to support the salary of a local wilderness guide, however, this application was not successful. As Sapers is at the start of her independent research career, the current funding profile will not support additional salaries. Sapers is continuing to submit proposals to support this work and hopes to build a funding profile that will allow for hiring local wilderness guides on future research trips. Sapers will reach out to Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to ensure we understand and are consistent with their work and aspirations. The research team will also contact the Nunavut Research Institute for additional engagement opportunities. We are requesting 5 days of accommodation at PCSP prior to deployment to Expedition Fiord to reach out to the local SAO office to continue building a relationship with the Hamlet of Resolute. Due to weather delays during the 2022 field season, we had the opportunity and privilege to participate in Nunavut Day activities. As part of our participation, we were able to prepare some samples and bring a microscope and a magnifying loupe as outreach activities engaging children. As logistics allow the dates we have chosen allow us to be present at PCSP during Nunavut Day on future research trips and the opportunity to plan additional outreach activities.