



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 23YN043**

NPC File No.: 150134

September 29, 2023

To: Alasdair Beattie
Team Lead
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
301-5204 50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

Sent via email: alsadair.beattie@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Keewaytinook Okimakanak's "Keewaytinook Okimakanak Bathymetric Marine Fiber Optic Cable Survey" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Alasdair Beattie:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Diane LeBouthillier, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada for Keewaytinook Okimakanak's "Keewaytinook Okimakanak Bathymetric Marine Fiber Optic Cable Survey" in the Qikiqtani Region, dated September 29, 2023.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that **a review of the project is not required** in accordance with s. 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of s. 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-5627 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Brittany Hogaluk
Technical Administration Coordinator
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 23YN043 (September 29, 2023)

cc: Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut Department of Environment
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute