



**NIRB File No.: 24YN028**  
**NPC File No.: 150423**

June 27, 2024

David Babb  
University of Manitoba  
125 Dysart Rd.  
Winnipeg, MB, R3Y 2N2

Sent via email: [David.babb@umanitoba.ca](mailto:David.babb@umanitoba.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening for the University of Manitoba’s “An Updated View of the Oceanographic Conditions in the northern Canadian Arctic” project proposal**

Dear David Babb:

On May 29, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen University of Manitoba’s “An Updated View of the Oceanographic Conditions in the northern Canadian Arctic” project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **24YN028** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

***Project Scope:***

<b>Project:</b>	An Updated View of the Oceanographic Conditions in the northern Canadian Arctic
<b>Region:</b>	Qikiqtani (North Baffin) Region
<b>Location:</b>	Nansen Sound, Eureka Sound and Surrounding Area

<b>Closest Community:</b>	Grise Fiord and Resolute Bay	<b>Distance (approximate)</b>	100 kilometres (km)	<b>Direction</b>	North, Northwest
<b>Summary of Project Description:</b>	The Proponent intends to provide an updated view of the oceanographic conditions in the northern Canadian Arctic by deploying sampling equipment on the ice to continuously monitor the oceanographic and sea ice conditions in the area throughout winter.				
<b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>	2024 to 2025				

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of the Coast Guard vessel CCGS *Des Groseilliers* during its annual re-supply trip to Eureka for transit and research purposes;
- Use of snowmobiles to access sampling sites during the winter;
- Use of a helicopter to access sampling sites during spring;
- Use of ice augers to sample the ice and sample the underlying ocean;
- Deploy multiple Conductivity-Temperature-Depth (CTD) sensors to collect temperature, salinity and other variables used to characterize the properties of the water;

#### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

### REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry [www.nirb.ca/project/125971](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125971) and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination and Application*
- *NIRB Application*
- *Application to NRI*
- *Project Description*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by University of Manitoba project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **July 18, 2024**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125971](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125971).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at 867-983-4612 or [tkuliktana@nirb.ca](mailto:tkuliktana@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Tundra Kuliktana  
Screening Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Assol Kubeisinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Alasdair Beattie, Fisheries and Oceans Canada