



August 28, 2024

Brendan Bell  
Chief Executive Officer  
West Kitikmeot Corp  
P.O. Box 6  
Cambridge Bay, NU  
X0B 0C0

**Re: Support for the West Kitikmeot Resource Corp in conducting the Grays Bay Port and Road Project**

Dear Mr. Bell,

As an Inuit-led and Inuit-owned initiative under the stewardship of the West Kitikmeot Resource Corp (WKR), the Grays Bay Port and Road Project (GBRP) stands as a landmark of northern development. This project exemplifies the Inuit's deep-rooted commitment to sustainable development, economic self-determination, and the preservation of their cultural heritage. Inuit leadership is at the heart of GBRP, shaping a future that aligns with their values, aspirations, and role as original stewards of the Kitikmeot region.

As the NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines, we recognize the critical role that the GBRP could play in defining economic development in the Kitikmeot region throughout the 21st century. By creating a transportation backbone that improves the quality of life in Kitikmeot communities and overcomes barriers to regional economic growth. The GBRP will facilitate further expansion of mining and critical mineral infrastructure, unlocking significant social and economic opportunities for residents. Inuit-led companies, with KIA as the largest shareholder, are central to the ownership and development of this important multi-user infrastructure. We affirm our support for the continued progress of this critical initiative and the partnership between WKR, KIA, the Government of Nunavut, and other stakeholders, which ensures that the GBRP will not only be a beacon of economic development but also a symbol of Inuit self-determination.

We collectively recognize and favourably view the potential benefits the Grays Bay Road and Port Project could provide to the Kitikmeot region and beyond. The anticipated boost to Canada's GDP—estimated at \$7.6 billion over 15 years—will result from the contributions of Inuit-led enterprises, reinforcing economic sovereignty in Inuit communities and setting a new standard for Arctic infrastructure development. This collaboration embodies Inuit values of stewardship, innovation, and collaboration, ensuring that the GBRP will foster long-term sustainability and improved quality of life for Inuit communities, while bringing lasting benefits to all Canadians. We stand firmly in support of WKR's continued development of the GBRP and the integral role of KIA in this transformative project.

Yours sincerely,

*Hudson Lester*

Hudson Lester  
General Manager-Nunavut  
NWT & Nunavut Chamber of Mines