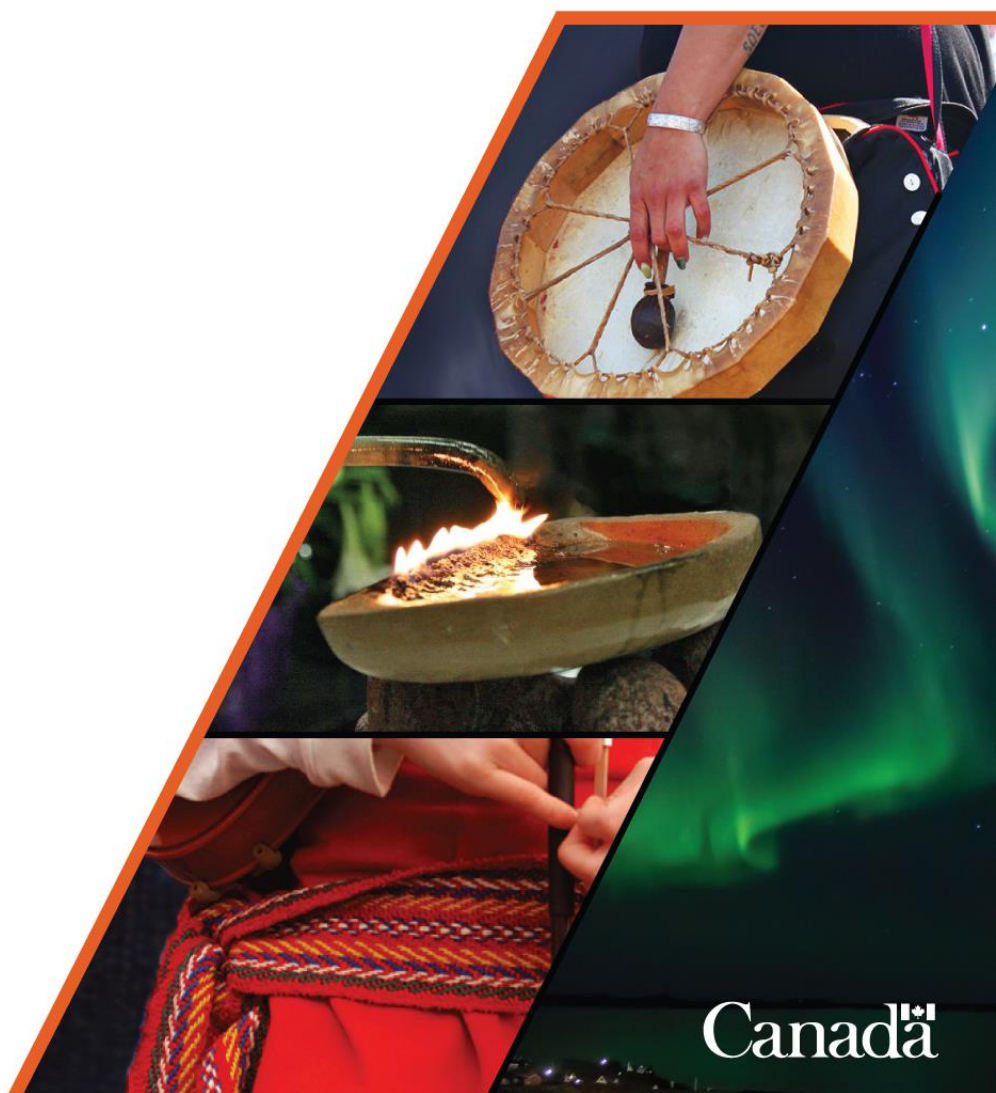




CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for University of Ottawa's "Inuit Qaujisarnirmut Pilirijjutit on Arctic Shipping Risks in Inuit Nunangat" Project Proposal



Nunavut Regional Office
918 Sivumugiaq Street
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 3H0

Your file - Votre référence
24YN040
Our file - Notre référence
GCdocs#130166688

October 15, 2024

Robby Qammaniq
Impact Assessment Officer
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
via NIRB public registry

Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for University of Ottawa's "Inuit Qaujisarnirmut Pilirijjutit on Arctic Shipping Risks in Inuit Nunangat" Project Proposal

Dear Robby Qammaniq,

On October 4, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on University of Ottawa's "Inuit Qaujisarnirmut Pilirijjutit on Arctic Shipping Risks in Inuit Nunangat" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

CIRNAC 1: Potential for Positive Effects to Inuit through Employment, Training, and Contracting Opportunities

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent prioritize the employment, training, and contracting of local Inuit and Inuit firms when implementing its project activities. Such efforts will allow for positive effects to be realized by community members and the local Inuit population. Members of communities where shore-based activities occur, which may include Arviat, Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, and Resolute Bay, as well as the communities of Arviat and Pond Inlet which will host community-based monitoring activities, should be prioritized in any project-related employment, training, and contracting opportunities that may be made available.

CIRNAC 2: Consultation with Interest Parties

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent maintain open communication with the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, all communities where shore-based activities will occur (i.e., Gjoa Haven, Cambridge Bay, and Resolute Bay), the communities of Arviat and Pond Inlet, their respective Hunters and Trappers Organizations, and relevant organizations regarding its project proposal. As part of any consultation activities, several issues should be considered, including, but not limited to:



- Incorporation of Inuit Qauijimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent disturbance to sites with cultural, archaeological, and/or environmental significance;
- Training and employment opportunities for Inuit and community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local and Inuit-owned businesses; and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.

CIRNAC 3: Preventing Disturbance to Marine Wildlife from Boat and Remotely-operated Vehicles

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult the Arviat and Mittimatalik Hunters & Trappers Organizations, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regarding its planned use of boats and remotely-operated vehicles to collect water samples in areas surrounding the communities of Arviat and Pond Inlet. The focus of this consultation should be to obtain informed prior consent and to confirm accepted community practices that will be followed to prevent any disturbance to marine wildlife and avoid conflict with traditional harvesting activities that may arise associated with these project activities.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact David Abernethy by e-mail at david.abernethy@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca.

Sincerely,



John MacInnis
Sr Environmental Assessment Specialist

