



**NIRB File No.: 24TN051**  
**NPC File No.: 150564**

January 20, 2025

Haakon Vatle  
Stiftelsen Seilskipet Statsraad Lehmkuhl  
Bradbenken 2, skur 7  
Bergen 5003  
Norway

Sent via email: [haakon.vatle@lehmkuhl.no](mailto:haakon.vatle@lehmkuhl.no)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Foundation Statsraad Lehmkuhl's "Norwegian Tall Ship Through Northwest Passage and the Nunavut Region in 2025" Project Proposal**

Dear Haakon Vatle:

On November 7, 2024, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Foundation Statsraad Lehmkuhl's "Norwegian Tall Ship Through Northwest Passage and the Nunavut Region in 2025" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

On January 6, 2025, the NIRB received the complete application from the Proponent.

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 **24TN051** - please reference this file number in all future related correspondence.

#### PROJECT OVERVIEW

***Project Scope:***

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/126009](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126009).

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|-----------------|--|
| <b>Project:</b> | Norwegian Tall Ship Through Northwest Passage and the Nunavut Region in 2025 |
| <b>Region:</b>  | Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani  |

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| <b>Location:</b>                       | Pond Inlet, Gjoa Haven, and Cambridge Bay  |
| <b>Summary of Project Description:</b> | The Proponent intends to conduct research about the ocean, share knowledge about the crucial role of the ocean, and identify the challenges that local Arctic people face as a result of the climate-driven changes. |
| <b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>      | August to September 2025   |

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

- Sail through the Northwest Passage on a tall ship,
- Collect water samples,
- Collect samples from the seafloor,
- Collect samples of fish and microorganisms,
- Collect information about the occurrence of marine mammals, the ocean current, weather patterns, ocean temperatures, and ocean light conditions, and
- Conduct interviews with some local communities.

#### ***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 public registry [www.nirb.ca/project/126009](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126009) and include:

- *NPC Conformity Determination and Application;*
- *NIRB Application;*
- *Project Description;*
- *Map;*
- *Introduction and Background Summary;*
- *Non Tech Summary; and*
- *Research Application.*

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 Foundation Statsraad Lehmkuhl project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 10, 2025**.

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/126009](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126009).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4618 or [rquammaniq@nirb.ca](mailto:rquammaniq@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Robby Qammaniq  
Impact Assessment Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (6): Public Notice of Screening (English Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)  
Comment Forms (English Inuktitut and Inuinnaqtun)

cc: Distribution List  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Tannis Bolt, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut - Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut - Economic Development and Transportation  
Caroline Whittle, Government of Nunavut - Culture and Heritage  
Sylvie LeBlanc, Government of Nunavut - Culture and Heritage  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute  
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Marcus Bermann, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada  
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment  
Jose Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Transport Canada