

Taloyoak Umarulirigut Association

Taloyoak, Nunavut

April 01, 2025

Nunavut Impact Review Board

P.O. Box 1360

Cambridge Bay, NU

X0B 0C0

Subject: Opposition to the Bronzite Somerset Island Project Amendment

To Whom It May Concern,

The Taloyoak Umarulirigut Association strongly opposes the Bronzite Somerset Island Project and its proposed amendment to extend operations from 18 months to five years. Bronzite has not conducted an in-person consultation with our community, demonstrating a complete disregard for the people who will be most affected by this project. This lack of engagement is unacceptable, and we do not support the project in any form.

Somerset Island and its surrounding waters are a critical habitat for narwhal and beluga, species that are essential to our culture, food security, and way of life. Any industrial activity in this sensitive ecosystem poses a serious threat to these marine mammals and the overall health of the environment. The long-term consequences of this project are too great a risk to take.

Furthermore, Somerset Island holds deep historical and cultural significance for the people of Taloyoak. Our ancestors and grandparents lived there for generations, and it remains a vital part of our identity. Industrial development in this sacred place would be a direct violation of our heritage and the values we hold as Inuit.

The Taloyoak Umarulirigut Association is currently in the process of establishing an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area (IPCA) to safeguard Somerset Island and its surrounding environment. This initiative reflects our community's commitment to protecting our land, waters, and wildlife for future generations. Allowing an industrial project like Bronzite's to proceed in this area would directly contradict our efforts to conserve this important region.

We call on the Nunavut Impact Review Board to reject this proposal. Our land, wildlife, and cultural heritage must be protected, and this project is not in the best interest of our people or the environment.

Sincerely,

Taloyoak Umarulirigut Association Board of Directors