



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 25YN058**

NPC File No.: 150856

August 26, 2025

To: Jose Audet-Lecouffe
Acting Team Lead
301-5204 50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

Sent via email: jose.audet-lecouffe@df0-mpo.gc.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for University of Manitoba's "Characterizing Contaminant Levels in Softshell Clams in Frobisher Bay near Iqaluit" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region

Dear Jose:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Joanne Thompson, Minister of Fisheries for University of Manitoba's "Characterizing Contaminant Levels in Softshell Clams in Frobisher Bay near Iqaluit" in the Qikiqtani Region, dated August 26, 2025.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that **a review of the project is not required** in accordance with s. 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of s. 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4615 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Calvin Ehaloak
Public Registry Coordinator
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 25YN058 (August 26, 2025)

cc: Ken Jeffries, University of Manitoba
Moshia Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Muhammad Arslan, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
David Abernethy, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Richard Bingley, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada