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Dear Cassel Kapolak, Mosha Cote, Richard Dwyer, Tracey McCaie, Christopher Gerlach, Jared Ottenhof, Wynter Kuliktana, and Martin Gregus:

RE: NPC File No: 150358 [GeoNest Lodge - Coningham Bay]

1. **Scientific Research and Tourism:** GeoNest lodge plans to conduct tourism and scientific operations in the Coningham Bay area for two months each year in August and September when our guides will bring roughly 100 tourists to the region to temporary camp/lodge. The lodge is primarily used for wildlife viewing and scientific research of polar bears, beluga, and narwhale. From camp, guests can take a guided zodiac tour around the bay, kayak, ATV, and observe wildlife from the shore. In addition to tourism GeoNest Lodge will be used as a base camp for film crews and photography workshops.

While the camp is temporary and will be dissembled after each season, three containers will remain on site. These containers will house all the equipment necessary to setup camp the following year along with zodiacs and ATV's further minimizing our impact on the environment due to unnecessary travel.

Prior to operations in 2026 we hope to setup a research program which will enable scientists to study and access this region.

2. **Location:** Qikiqtani Region; [approximately 400 km South-west of Arctic Bay, and 280 km North of Taloyoak].

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) can be accessed online using the link below.

The NPC has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. It conforms to the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan (NBRLUP). The proponent has undertaken to comply with the applicable conformity requirements of Appendix C, H, and I of the NBRLUP.

The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the *Nunavut Agreement*.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/registry/registry.aspx?appid=150358>.

The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)* to implement any of the applicable requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required. Regulatory authorities may consult with the NPC to obtain recommendations on their duties to implement the existing land use plans prior to issuing licenses, permits and other authorizations under subsection 69(6) of the *NuPPAA*.

My office would be pleased to discuss how best to implement the applicable requirements and to review any draft authorizations that regulatory authorities wish to provide for that purpose. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue, MCIP, RPP
Manager of Planning and Implementation
Nunavut Planning Commission