NIRB Application for Screening #126438

Maguse Road - A Heritage Trail

Application Type:	New
Project Type:	Access
Application Date:	Sunday, April 19, 2026
Period of operation:	from 2026-08-16 to 2026-08-26
Project Proponent:	Ryan Shackleton 1604 Forest Ridge Place Ottawa Ontario K1C 7N4 Canada Phone Number:: 613-799-8926, Fax Number::

DETAILS

Non-technical project proposal description

English: This project will document and catalogue important heritage sites located along the Maguse Road corridor from Arviat to the Maguse River and into Maguse Lake, Nunavut. This non-invasive documentation of sites will not disturb any archeological site, it will prioritize the documentation of the site's location and Inuit knowledge associated with these sites. The road aligns roughly with a traditional travel corridor used by Inuit for generations and contains numerous cultural and archaeological sites representing different periods of Inuit land use and occupation, as well as locations associated with early Inuit–settler contact. With the construction of a gravel access road from Arviat toward Maguse Lake, more residents are now travelling along this route and establishing cabins in the area. As access increases, there is an urgent need to identify and document historic campsites, archaeological sites, and culturally significant places before they are inadvertently disturbed. Many sites around Maguse Lake remain undocumented and have not yet been formally mapped or recorded. The primary objective of this project is to identify and document these sites using non-invasive recording techniques and record Inuit knowledge associated with these sites. Luke Suluk, a respected Inuit knowledge holder has spent years documenting Inuit history and heritage and will provide knowledge associated with the identified sites. This work will support the protection and preservation of cultural heritage resources, strengthen community knowledge about the history of the area, and provide foundational documentation that can support future interpretation and heritage initiatives. Fieldwork will take place over approximately five days between August 16 and August 23. The project will be led by Arviat knowledge holder Luke Suluk, an experienced land user with deep knowledge of the Maguse region. He will be supported by Inuit community members. Additional members of the project team include Ryan Shackleton and Maxime Delaquis of Know History, both of whom have extensive experience conducting heritage research in Nunavut and working collaboratively with northern communities. Prior to beginning fieldwork, the project team will meet with representatives from the Hamlet of Arviat to inform them of the project, discuss the research plan, and confirm the timeline and goals of the fieldwork. During the fieldwork period, the team will travel along the Maguse Road and into Maguse Lake using ATVs and a boat, which will be provided by community members. Guided by Luke Suluk, the team will visit a series of locations known to contain cultural and archaeological sites. Areas anticipated to be visited include: 1. Arviat shoreline sites 2. Angaktaarjuaq sites 3. Itigugjuaq sites 4. Itiguarjuit sites 5. Esker to Qamaniq (Maguse Lake) 6. Qunnguq Narrows 7. Ikirahak sites 8. Quaqjuit small island 9. Kuuvik Crossing sites At each location, the team will document the site using photography, videography, GPS/GIS mapping, and detailed field notes. All documentation will be conducted using strictly non-invasive methods. No excavation, collection, or disturbance of archaeological materials will occur. In addition to documenting physical site features, the project will include short interviews with Luke Suluk to record Inuit knowledge associated with the sites and the broader travel route. These interviews will capture stories, place names, land use history, and cultural context connected to the locations visited. Interviews will be conducted in English and Inuktitut and will help link the physical landscape with Inuit knowledge and lived experience. Following fieldwork, the collected information will be compiled and organized using GIS mapping, photographic documentation, and interview summaries. Where appropriate, the information will also be integrated with relevant archival and historical sources. The resulting dataset will provide an initial inventory of heritage sites located along the Maguse Road corridor. All data will be stored in a custom Airtable database. A copy of all data will be provided to the community for their records. This documentation phase will form the foundation for a second phase of the project. Phase 2 will focus on sharing the significance of this route through public education and heritage recognition initiatives. This work may include: * The nomination of the Maguse Road route to the Trans Canada Trail Network as a recognized heritage trail. * The development of online educational modules that share Inuit knowledge, photographs, mapped sites, and historical information associated with the route. * The potential development of interpretive signage along the corridor to help residents and visitors understand the cultural importance and history of the area. Together, these initiatives will create an accessible educational resource that highlights the cultural significance of the route for Padlimiut and helps ensure that knowledge of these places is preserved and shared for future generations. The scientific and public benefits of the project include improved documentation of archaeological and cultural heritage sites in the Arviat region and the preservation of Inuit knowledge associated with traditional travel routes and land use while also not disturbing any archeological features at the sites. This work will

support community-based heritage management, education initiatives, and responsible stewardship of culturally significant landscapes. All project funding is being secured through the partnership with Know History, which will administer project logistics and financial management. Funding applications will be submitted to organizations including Inuit Heritage Trust (IHT), Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated (NTI), and the Government of Nunavut to support fieldwork and Inuit participation. If external funding is not secured, Know History will cover all Phase 1 project costs, including compensation for community members and fieldwork expenses. Importantly, all knowledge documented through this project will remain owned and controlled by the community. The project will follow principles of Indigenous data sovereignty, ensuring that Inuit knowledge is documented respectfully and that the community determines how the information is stored, shared, and used. Know History's role is to provide technical support and documentation.

French: n/a

Inuktitut: n/a

Inuinnaqtun: n/a

Personnel

Personnel on site: 4
Days on site: 7
Total Person days: 28
Operations Phase: from 2026-08-16 to 2026-08-26

Activities

Location	Activity Type	Land Status	Site history	Site archaeological or paleontological value	Proximity to the nearest communities and any protected areas
f20264177516461-Maguse_Application	Researching	Crown	N/A	N/A	N/A

Community Involvement & Regional Benefits

Community	Name	Organization	Date Contacted
Arviat	Keith Collier	Hamlet of Arviat	2026-04-16

Authorizations

Indicate the areas in which the project is located:

Kivalliq

Authorizations

Regulatory Authority	Authorization Description	Current Status	Date Issued / Applied	Expiry Date
Information is not available				

Project transportation types

Transportation Type	Proposed Use	Length of Use
Land	On foot	

Project accomodation types

Community

Material Use

Equipment to be used (including drills, pumps, aircraft, vehicles, etc)

Equipment Type	Quantity	Size - Dimensions	Proposed Use
Information is not available			

Detail Fuel and Hazardous Material Use

Detail fuel material use:	Fuel Type	Number of containers	Container Capacity	Total Amount	Units	Proposed Use
Information is not available						

Water Consumption

Daily amount (m3)	Proposed water retrieval methods	Proposed water retrieval location
0		

Waste

Waste Management

Project Activity	Type of Waste	Projected Amount Generated	Method of Disposal	Additional treatment procedures
Information is not available				

Environmental Impacts:

No negative impacts suspected. The primary objective of this project is to identify and document these sites using non-invasive recording techniques and record Inuit knowledge associated with these sites. Luke Suluk, a respected Inuit knowledge holder has spent years documenting Inuit history and heritage and will provide knowledge associated with the identified sites. This work will support the protection and preservation of cultural heritage resources, strengthen community knowledge about the history of the area, and provide foundational documentation that can support future interpretation and heritage initiatives.

Additional Information

SECTION A1: Project Info

SECTION A2: Allweather Road

SECTION A3: Winter Road

SECTION B1: Project Info

SECTION B2: Exploration Activity

SECTION B3: Geosciences

SECTION B4: Drilling

SECTION B5: Stripping

SECTION B6: Underground Activity

SECTION B7: Waste Rock

SECTION B8: Stockpiles

SECTION B9: Mine Development

SECTION B10: Geology

SECTION B11: Mine

SECTION B12: Mill

SECTION C1: Pits

SECTION D1: Facility

SECTION D2: Facility Construction

SECTION D3: Facility Operation

SECTION D4: Vessel Use

SECTION E1: Offshore Survey

SECTION E2: Nearshore Survey

SECTION E3: Vessel Use

SECTION F1: Site Cleanup

SECTION G1: Well Authorization

SECTION G2: Onland Exploration

SECTION G3: Offshore Exploration

SECTION G4: Rig

SECTION H1: Vessel Use

SECTION H2: Disposal At Sea

SECTION I1: Municipal Development

Description of Existing Environment: Physical Environment

Description of Existing Environment: Biological Environment

Description of Existing Environment: Socio-economic Environment

Miscellaneous Project Information

Identification of Impacts and Proposed Mitigation Measures

Cumulative Effects

Impacts

Identification of Environmental Impacts

	PHYSICAL	Designated environmental areas	Ground stability	Permafrost	Hydrology / Limnology	Water quality	Climate conditions	Eskers and other unique or fragile landscapes	Surface and bedrock geology	Sediment and soil quality	Tidal processes and bathymetry	Air quality	Noise levels	BIOLOGICAL	Vegetation	Wildlife, including habitat and migration patterns	Birds, including habitat and migration patterns	Aquatic species, incl. habitat and migration/spawning	Wildlife protected areas	SOCIO-ECONOMIC	Archaeological and cultural historic sites	Employment	Community wellness	Community infrastructure	Human health
Construction																									
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Operation																									
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Decommissioning																									
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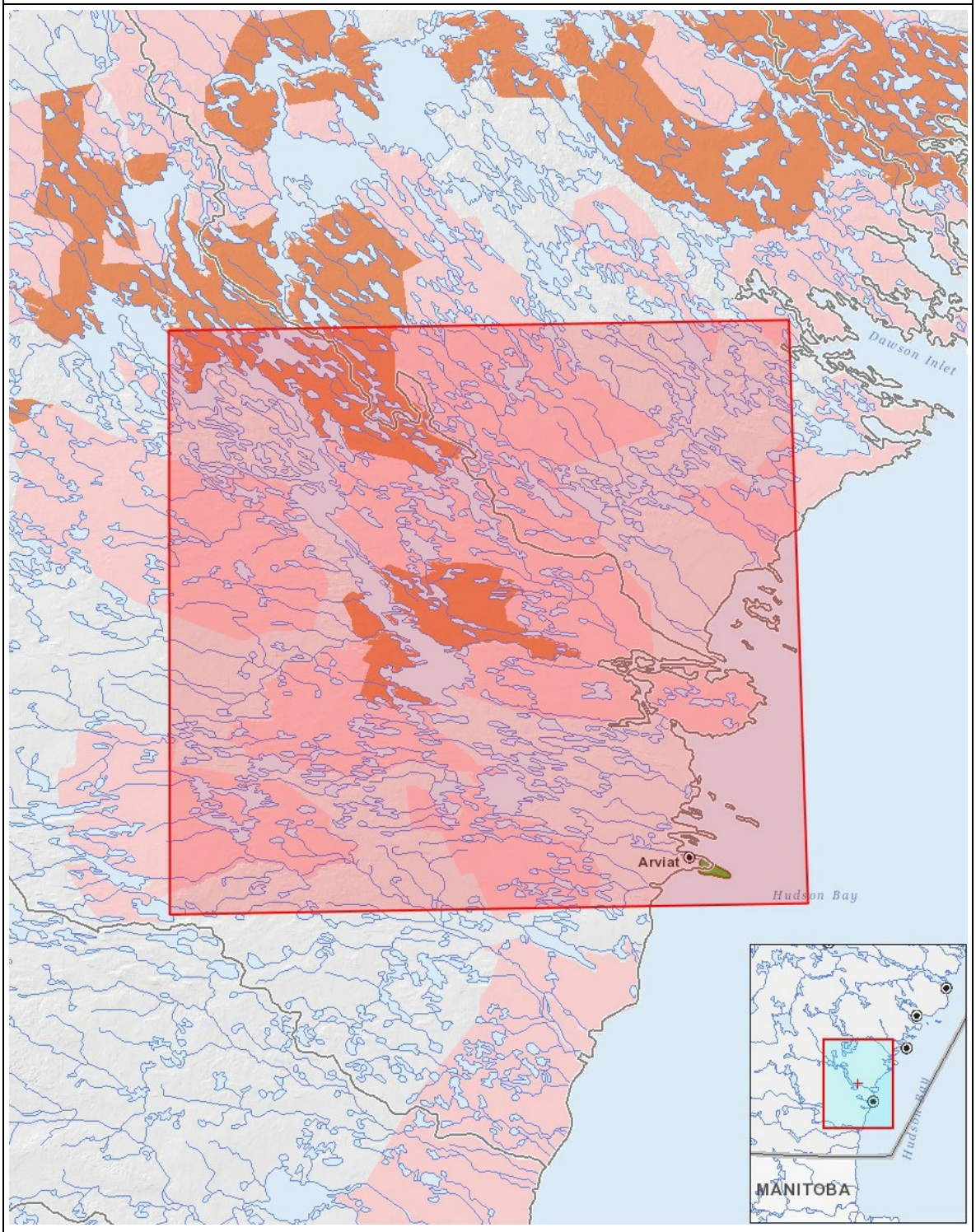
(P = Positive, N = Negative and non-mitigatable, M = Negative and mitigatable, U = Unknown)

Project Location



List of Project Geometries

1	polygon	f20264177516461-Maguse_Application