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Dear Calvin Ehaloak, Maryse Mahy, Richard Dwyer, Jared Ottenhof and Cory Matthews:

RE: NPC File No: 151178 [Ecology and demography of killer whales in the eastern Canadian Arctic]

The following works and activities have been proposed in the above-noted project proposal:

1. **Primary land use:** Marine based Scientific Research
2. **Project description:** This project aims to investigate Arctic killer whale distribution and range expansions, population abundance and trends, population structure, and foraging ecology. Methods include satellite telemetry, photo-identification, tissue biopsies, whole-genome sequencing, stable isotope and contaminant analyses, passive acoustic monitoring, drone observations, and bioenergetics modeling. The multidisciplinary research team's objective is to study Arctic killer whale distribution and range expansions, population structure and trends, and foraging ecology to determine how to incorporate killer whale predator-prey interactions into marine mammal stock assessments.
3. **Timing, Duration, & Personnel:** Multiyear | Seasonal | July 15, 2026- October 31, 2029 | 150-person day person each season.
4. **Location:** Qikiqtani Region; [Admiralty Inlet, Near Arctic Bay]

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=151178>.

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

Jurisdictional Note:

This conformity determination applies only to the components of the proposed project located within the Nunavut Settlement Area and under the Nunavut Planning Commission's statutory jurisdiction as defined in the Nunavut Agreement and the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA). Activities outside the NPC's jurisdiction remain subject to the review and regulatory processes of the relevant authorities. Proponents are responsible for identifying, contacting, and obtaining all required approvals from the appropriate regulators in every applicable jurisdiction to ensure compliance with all legislation, policies, and licensing requirements.