

Nattivak Hunters and Trappers Association letterhead

Ladd Johnson, Professor  
Camille Lavoie, Research Associate  
Département de biologie and Québec-Océan  
Laval University  
Québec (QC) G1V 0A6

Re : Letter of support for research program on the kelp forests of Qikiqtarjuaq

Dear Dr. Johnson and Ms. Lavoie,

We thank you and your team for meeting with us in September 2025 to share information about kelp habitats in our region, and for engaging with community members through several presentations and discussions during your visit. This topic is important to us, and we support your project to study kelp forests around our community, as well as to collect samples of the plants and animals that live with them. This research will help improve our understanding of local marine ecosystems and how they are changing.

We look forward to working with your team, including your collaborators at the Canadian Museum of Nature, and to receiving updates on the project as it progresses. We also encourage you to involve local people whenever possible, including hiring boat operators and guides, and exploring opportunities for community members to receive training - such as scuba diving certification - which would help build local capacity.

We value this collaboration and believe it will benefit both science and the community of Qikiqtarjuaq.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Johnson', written in a cursive style.