

## **City of Iqaluit Application for Type B Water Licence September 15, 2014**

### **Executive Summary**

The City of Iqaluit (City) is submitting an application for a Type B water licence for the construction of an access road to a proposed new granular resource site complete with two water crossings.

The City needs to develop a new granular resource site to allow for construction and the continued maintenance of municipal roads as well as allow for the continued development of community projects, housing and services. A new gravel source was identified northwest of the City and a design for a 4 km long access road was completed in August 2014. The road will be constructed of granular materials and will measure approximately 8.5 metres wide. The majority of the road will generally follow the alignment of an existing and well-used ATV trail.

The access road will cross two water courses that are greater than 5m in width at the high water mark (as defined in the Nunavut Waters Regulations, a water licence would be required for any use of waters related to the construction of a structure across a watercourse that is over 5m wide at the ordinary high water mark at the point of construction). Both streams exhibit surface water flow during freshet and for a short period during the summer following freshet, with periods of low flow or no flow starting in the late summer or early fall and lasting until freeze-up. Culverts will be installed at these two stream locations to allow unrestricted stream flow. In addition, culverts will also be installed at a number of other locations along the roadway to promote drainage during freshet and during significant precipitation events. The following mitigation measures will be employed to minimize impacts to water quality and potential downstream fish habitat during construction:

1. Timing in-stream construction activities to take place during periods of low flow or during the absence of flow;
2. Ensuring all equipment and granular materials are clean and free of deleterious substances;
3. Installation of silt fences downstream of the culvert outlets.

Ancillary to the use of the road to access the new granular resource site, the new road will potentially be used for access to a proposed new landfill site. The decision to construct a new landfill site at a location along the granular source access road will depend on the results of a feasibility study to be completed in 2015. If a landfill site is indeed selected for development along this access road, an amendment to the City Water Licence (the application for which is currently under review by the NWB) will be sought after completion of a preliminary design for this facility (note: any licence amendment for the proposed new landfill would *not* be sought as an amendment to the licence for the granular access road). Furthermore, an amendment for the operation of the granular resource access road will be sought at a later date, likely as part of the application to develop the granular resource.