



NIRB File No.: 16YN002

NPC File No.: 148191

February 29, 2016

The Honourable Paul Quassa
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: pquassa@gov.nu.ca; dkaludjak@gov.nu.ca

Re: Extension Request for NIRB Screening of University of Toronto's "Lake Ice in the Canadian High Arctic" Project Proposal

Dear Mr. Paul Quassa:

On January 27, 2016 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received the University of Toronto's (U of T) "Lake Ice in the Canadian High Arctic" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission for screening, pursuant to Part 3 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Pursuant to subsection 92(4) of the NuPPAA, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister(s) extend the period for the submission of its written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 16YN002.

Please be advised that all information pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at the following location: <http://ftp.nirb.ca/01-SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/16YN002-U%20of%20Toronto-Lake%20Ice/>.

As you may be aware, the Board has scheduled a Public Hearing in Baker Lake the week of March 1, 2016 as part of the assessment of the proposed Vault Pit Expansion proposal and the reconsideration of the Meadowbank Gold Mine Project Certificate. While occupied with the Public Hearing and associated travel, the Board will be temporarily unable to render determinations for other matters, including screening files. The Board will resume its decision-making as soon as possible following the close of the public hearing proceedings.

The NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within 45 days as set out in the NuPPAA. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by March 11, 2016, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister(s) for consideration.

If this request is approved, NIRB understands that the responsible authority will inform the Proponent, stakeholders and interested parties on the extension.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Laura Brown, University of Toronto
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute
Tracey McCaie, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Mia Pelletier, Canadian Wildlife Service