



September 15, 2017

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 Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)  
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Dear Ms. Ohokannoak, Ms. Pirie-Dominix, Mr. Williamson Bathory, Mr. Stubbing, Ms. Kusugak, Mr. Beamer, Ms. Kean:

**RE: NPC File # 148631 Quark Canadian Arctic 2017**

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

1. Marine-Based Activities: The Quark Canadian Arctic 2017 Expedition will operate with the MV Ocean Atlantic carrying a maximum of 100 passengers and a minimum of 18 staff.
2. Modifications to the original/amended project proposal: One new site; Sunneshine Fiord
3. Associated NPC File No: 148267 Quark Canadian Arctic 2016
4. Location: Qikiqtani Region:
  - Iqaluit
  - Monumental Island

- Kekerten Island
- Pangnirtung
- Sunneshine Fiord
- Isabella Bay
- Sam Ford Fiord

A complete description of the project proposal reviewed by the NPC can be accessed online using the link below.

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has completed its review of the above noted project proposal. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal (conformity determination issued April 17, 2014), which still applies. In addition, associated activities were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board, including:

- Cruise ship activities for approximately 200 passengers, staff, and crew throughout the Qikiqtani region using the *Kapitan Khlebnikov* ice class vessel;
- Visits to the communities of Resolute Bay and Grise Fiord as well as Cape Hay and the Coburg Island (Nirjutiqavvik) National Wildlife Area reserve;
- Use of six (6) Zodiac vessels (small boats with a capacity of 10-12 people) to view birds in waters near the Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary and the Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary;
  - Anchoring of the cruise vessel 1 kilometre off shore when Zodiac vessels in use;
- Renew National Wildlife Area entry permit for an additional three years and include a new CWS Bird Sanctuary permit;
  - Alternating use of Zodiac vessels and two helicopters to transport passengers and staff from ship to shore;
- Tours within Quttinirpaaq National Park:
  - Tanquary Fiord tour: enter the park via Tanquary Fiord, transport to shore by zodiac for visits to archaeological sites;
  - Arctic Adventure tour: enter the park via Lady Franklin Bay, access Fort Conger site for day trip via helicopter;
- Additional ship landings at Iqaluit, Eureka, Pond Inlet, Clyde River, Qikiqtarjuaq, and Pangnirtung;
- Additional archaeological landings at Beechy Island, Kekerton, Pim Island, Skraeling Island, and Dundas Harbour;
- Operation of four cruise itineraries with additional stops including Kimmirut, Cape Dorset, Igloolik, Monumental Island, and the Frobisher Bay Expedition Stop as well as the following community and islands in the Kivalliq region: Coral Harbour, Coats Island, Marble Island and Walrus Island; and
- Authorized entry to the Prince Leopold Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary and Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary (NIRB FILE NO.: 05AN089).

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.

This project proposal is exempt from the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NUPPAA) under section 235 of that Act. The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the inclusion of Sunneshine Fiord does not change the general scope of the original or previously amended project activities, and the exceptions noted in Section 12.4.3 (a) and (b) of the Nunavut Agreement do not apply.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the regulatory authorities identified by the proponent. Project materials, including the applicable conformity requirements, are available at the following address:

<http://npc.strata360.com/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148631&sessionid=>

This conformity determination applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. The regulatory authorities to which this letter is addressed are responsible under the Nunavut Agreement to implement any of the

applicable conformity requirements by incorporating the requirements directly, or otherwise ensuring that they must be met, in the terms and conditions of any authorizations issued.

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) 983-4634.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alana', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alana Vigna  
Senior Planner,  
Nunavut Planning Commission