



January 19, 2018

**Mosha Cote**

Manager-Research Liaison  
Nunavut Research Institute  
P.O. Box 1720 Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0  
By email: [mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca](mailto:mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca)

**Jaida Ohokannoak**

Manager, Technical Administration  
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)  
P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0  
By email: [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca)

**Mr. Philippe Belley**

University of British Columbia  
6339 Stores road  
Vancouver British Columbia V6T 1Z4 Canada  
By Email: [pbelley@eos.ubc.ca](mailto:pbelley@eos.ubc.ca)

Dear Mr. Cote, Ms. Ohokannoak, and Mr. Belley:

**RE: NPC File # 148685 [Origin of blue spinel occurrences in Southern Baffin Island, Nunavut: Implications for local gemstone potential]**

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

1. Scientific research: The objective of the research is to understand the geological conditions which led to the formation of the mineral spinel, a semi-precious gemstone on Baffin Island. Our findings will be fundamental to exploration for gem deposits in Southern Baffin Island. Rock samples of interest to our research will be picked up (when loose), or extracted with hand tools. Small power tools may be used to extract small amounts of rock (< 1 m<sup>3</sup>) where hand tools are ineffective. The quantity of samples taken from each site, expected to range from 1 kg to 20 kg, depends on the complexity of the rock.
2. Modifications to the original/amended project proposal: Expansion of the on ongoing research by completing additional, more detailed field work at spinel and sapphire occurrences on the True North Gems property near the Community of Kimmirut.
3. Associated NPC File No: 148247 [Origin of blue spinel occurrences in Southern Baffin Island, Nunavut: Implications for local gemstone potential]
4. Location: Qikiqtani Region; near the community of Kimmirut.

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 project proposal including extraction of rock samples with hand and small power tools in areas near the community of Kimmirut, and a determination was issued on March 23, 2016 (NPC file 148247) that it is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan.

In addition, works and activities associated with the current proposal were previously screened by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB FILE NO.: 16YN016).

The above-noted project proposal is exempt from screening by the NIRB because the NPC is of the understanding that the expansion of the on ongoing research by completing additional, more detailed field work at spinel and sapphire occurrences on the True North Gems property near the Community of Kimmirut does not change the general scope of the original 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 are available at the following address:

<http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148685&sessionid=>

This decision 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.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 979-3444.

Sincerely,



Goump Djalogue  
Senior Planner, MCIP | RPP  
Nunavut Planning Commission