

December 19, 2017

Jaida Ohokannoak Manager, Technical Administration Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) P.O. Box 1360, Cambridge Bay, NU XOB 0C0

By email: info@nirb.ca

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

## RE: NPC File # 148671 [Ancient DNA in lake sediment]

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

- 1. Scientific Research: The primary goal of this research is to analyze ancient DNA contained in lake sediment in order to reconstruct past vegetation changes.
- 2. Associated NPC File No: 148222 & 148582- Ancient DNA in lake sediment
- 3. Modifications to the original/amended project proposal: New lakes Qikiqtarjuaq.
- 4. Location: Qikiqtani Region; three lakes near Qikiqtarjuaq.

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 determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The NPC previously reviewed works and activities associated with the current proposal, including Sediment extractions in lakes (decision issued on February 24, 2016 and May 31, 2017) - Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment). The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) previously screened the works and activities associated with the current proposal, including sediment extractions in lakes (NIRB FILE NO. 16YN010).

The NPC has determined that the above-noted project proposal is a significant modification to the project because it now includes new areas near Qikiqtarjuaq.

The above-noted project proposal requires screening by the NIRB under section 12.4.3 of the Nunavut Agreement as amended because it is for a component or activity that was not part of the original or previously amended proposal and its inclusion is a significant modification of the project. By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal with this determination to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address:

## http://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=148671&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**