



CIRNAC COMMENTS TO NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for University of
Colorado's "Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment"
Project



Nunavut Regional Office
P.O. Box 100
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence
NIRB file #16YN010
Our file - Notre référence
CIDM #1245321

March 28, 2019

Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
PO Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0
Via electronic mail to: info@nirb.ca

Re: Notice of Screening for the University of Colorado's "Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment" Project

Dear Ms. Otokiak,

On March 19, 2019, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on University of Colorado's "Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) reviewed the project proposal and related documents and appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why:

Community Engagement:

Although it is positive that the proponent has been in communication with the Hamlet of Pond Inlet and the Ilisaqsivik society, an update should be provided about how the Proponent has engaged with the communities of Pond Inlet and Clyde River prior to conducting planned field work and how research results will be shared following the collection and analysis of data.

CIRNAC recommends that the proponent describe and document the efforts taken to inform the communities of Pond Inlet and Clyde River about the proposed project and how it intends to share the results of its project activities with community members.

Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal:

In the project application the Proponent states that there are "no expected impacts on the environment" related to proposed project activities. CIRNAC is aware that the project



specific terms and conditions recommended in NIRB Screening Decision Reports dated: April 18, 2016, July 14, 2017, and February 6, 2018, will continue to apply to this project; therefore, CIRNAC has no further comments or additional terms and conditions to recommend at this time.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent, as necessary, throughout any further review related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Krista Pooley at (867) 975-4587 or by e-mail at krista.pooley@canada.ca.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa
Manager, Impact Assessment

