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Building *Nunavut* Together
Nunavut liuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le *Nunavut* ensemble

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Government of Nunavut
Nunavut Kavamat
Gouvernement du Nunavut

March 29, 2019

Mia Otokiak
Junior Technical Advisor
Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Sent VIA Email: info@nirb.ca

RE: Notice of Screening for University of Colorado's "Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment" Project Proposal (19XN009)

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On behalf of the Government of Nunavut (GN), I would like to thank the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) for the opportunity to provide comments on University of Colorado's "Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment" Project Proposal. The GN reviewed the proposed project and has prepared several comments for your consideration (see Appendix).

Should you have any concerns with our comments, please contact me by phone at 867-975-7808 or by email at cspencer@gov.nu.ca.

Qujannamiik,

[Original Signed By]

Chris Spencer
Avatiliriniq Coordinator
Government of Nunavut

cc: Alexandre Chaikine, Environmental Assessment Specialist, GN
(AChaikine@gov.nu.ca)

Appendix

GN-01: Wildlife Disturbance	
Department	Environment
Organization	Government of Nunavut
Subject/Topic	Potential Wildlife Disturbance
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NIRB Notice of Screening 16YN010: Screening for “Ancient DNA in Lake Sediment”• NIRB Application for Screening #125447
CONCERNS	
<p>The Project activities will not likely lead to the destruction of wildlife habitat. The potential adverse effects related to wildlife disturbance are predictable and can be mitigated using the standard best practices.</p>	
RECOMMENDATIONS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Ensure that wildlife will not be harassed or disturbed.2. Cease Project activities when caribou are observed to be approaching the Project area.3. Maintain a minimum aircraft flight altitude of 610m above ground level and 600m horizontal distance from caribou.	

GN-02: Permits and Licensing	
Department	Environment
Organization	Government of Nunavut
Subject/Topic	Permits and Licensing
References	NIRB Notice of Screening #125447
CONCERNS	
<p>The Proponent intends to map vegetation during the course of this Project, which is an activity that requires approval under the Nunavut Wildlife Act. Under Project Authorizations in the Proponents application to the Nunavut Impact Review Board they have not indicated that they will apply for a Wildlife Research Permit from the Department of Environment.</p>	
SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>The Proponent should obtain a Wildlife Research Permit from the Government of Nunavut prior to the commencement of any vegetation related research activities.</p>	