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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

May 24, 2019

Talia Maksagak
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 the University of Alberta's "Impacts of Melting Tidewater Glaciers on Marine Biogeochemical Cycles" project proposal (19YN020)

Dear Talia Maksagak,

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 Alberta's "Impacts of Melting Tidewater Glaciers on Marine Biogeochemical Cycles" Project Proposal. The GN reviewed the proposal and has prepared one comment for your consideration (see Appendix).

Should you have any concerns with our comment, 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: Phillip Innes, Project Assessment Archaeologist, GN (Plnnes@gov.nu.ca)

Appendix

GN-01: Archaeological Considerations	
Department	Culture and Heritage
Organization	Government of Nunavut
Subject/Topic	Archaeological Considerations
References	NIRB Notice of Screening
CONCERNS	
<p>The proponent is proposing to conduct research activities focused on glacier dynamics and hydrology of the Sverdrup, Belcher, Sydkap and Jakeman glaciers and their impact on the downstream marine environment. The project is located in the Qikittani (North Baffin) region, approximately 250 kilometres from Grise Fiord and will take place from July 2019 to July 2024. Research activities include: use of a Twin Otter aircraft or helicopter to transport equipment and personnel to field sites; construction of temporary campsites; and conducting land reconnaissance surveys.</p> <p>A search of the Nunavut Archaeological Site Database indicates that there are numerous recorded archaeological sites within the study areas. This however does not preclude the presence of additional unidentified sites or cultural features.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ice-free Regions of Devon Island study area has seven (7) identified sites. 2. The Sydkap Glacier and Terminus study area has one (1) identified site near the entrance of South Cape Fiord. 3. The Belcher Glacier and Terminus and Surrounding Area study area has two (2) identified sites. 4. The Sverdrup Glacier and Terminus and Surrounding Area study area has a high concentration of one hundred and sixty-eight (168) identified sites. 5. The Western Devon Island Ice Cap study area has eighty-four (84) identified sites, with a concentration of sites at the mouth of Croker Bay. 6. The Jakeman Glacier Terminus and Surrounding Area study area has fifteen (15) identified sites 	
SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>On the basis that the study areas have not been the object of systematic archaeological surveys, the Department of Culture and Heritage recommends that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proponent exercises caution in their movements in order to avoid archaeological sites, specifically with regards to aircraft landings and the placement of temporary campsites. It is recommended that landing areas be visually inspected prior to landing and takeoff, and areas also be visually inspected prior to the construction of campsites. 	

2. No activities be conducted in the vicinity (50 m buffer zone) of any archaeological/historical sites. If archaeological sites or features are encountered, activities should immediately be interrupted and moved away from this location. Each site encountered needs to be recorded and reported to the Government of Nunavut Territorial Archaeology Office.

All archaeological and palaeontological sites in Nunavut are protected by law. The applicant must understand that it is their responsibility to ensure that no heritage resource sites are disturbed in the course of their activities. No person shall alter, or otherwise disturb an archaeological site, or remove any artifact from an archaeological site. Moreover, the building of inuksuit is not recommended.