



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 19YN035**

NPC File No.: 149174

August 16, 2019

To: Mosha Cote
Manager, Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 1720
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Queen's University's "A survey of mercury levels within edible plants, fungi and soil in Iqaluit and surrounding areas" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region

Dear Mosha Cote:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Patterk Netser, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College for Queen's University's "A survey of mercury levels within edible plants, fungi and soil in Iqaluit and surrounding areas" Project Proposal, in the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) Region, dated August 16, 2019.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Andrea Omilgoitok, NIRB Environmental Administrator at 867-983-4615 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Andrea Omilgoitok
Environmental Administrator

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 19YN035 (August 16, 2019)

cc: Ryan Bergin, Queen's University
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Natalie O'Grady, Depart of Economic Development-Government of Nunavut
Drikus Gissing, Department of Environment- Government of Nunavut
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Mark D'Aguiar, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Distribution List