



NIRB File No.: 19YN035
NPC File No.: 149174

August 16, 2019

To: The Honourable Patterk Netser
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College
Government of Nunavut
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: pnetser1@gov.nu.ca and sbaines@gov.nu.ca

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

Dear Honourable Minister:

Following the assessment of all material information provided, the NIRB is recommending that a review of Queen's University's "A survey of mercury levels within edible plants, fungi and soil in Iqaluit and surrounding areas" project is not required pursuant to paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*.

Pursuant to its discretion under paragraph 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB has determined that specific terms and conditions are appropriate for this project.

Accordingly, the NIRB is issuing the attached Screening Decision Report dated August 15, 2019 to the responsible Minister. The Screening Decision Report provides, among other things, the regulatory framework, project overview and the NIRB's assessment process, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts and recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

Please note that the project proposal will not be enclosed due to the size of the electronic document and the limited bandwidth. However, an electronic copy of the project proposal is accessible online from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125475

Please note that, the Board only directly addresses these notice letters to those individuals considered to be a "responsible Minister with decision-making authority" for the project as set out under the *NuPPAA*. However, regulatory authorities and other authorizing agencies associated

with a proposed project (e.g. Regional Inuit Associations, Nunavut Water Board) will continue to be copied on the Notice of Release of the Screening Decision Report. The NIRB is providing these parties with notice and access to the Board's Screening Decision Report as required under s. 200(2) and in support of these parties in the fulfillment of their responsibilities under the *NuPPAA* and the *Nunavut Agreement* to address, and as appropriate, implement, to the fullest extent possible, any relevant NIRB recommendations contained in the Screening Decision Report.

We look forward to receiving a response from the responsible Minister and the NIRB remains available for consultation with the Minister regarding this report as necessary. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the NIRB's Director, Technical Services, Tara Arko at (867) 983-4611 or tarko@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "M. Kaviq Kaluraq". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "M." and the last name "Kaluraq" clearly visible.

Kaviq Kaluraq
A/Chairperson
Nunavut Impact Review Board

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

cc: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
The Honourable Joe Savikataaq, Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut