



**NIRB File No.: 19YN039**  
NPC File No.: 149180

September 9, 2019

Madelaine Bourdages  
Carleton University  
1125 Colonel By Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1S5B6

Sent via email: [madelainebourdages@cmail.carleton.ca](mailto:madelainebourdages@cmail.carleton.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Carleton University's "Microplastics in beach sediment: Collecting baseline data for microplastic contamination around Iqaluit and developing tools for effective community-based monitoring" Project Proposal**

Dear Madelaine Bourdages:

On July 31, 2019 the NIRB received a referral to screen Carleton University's "Microplastics in beach sediment: Collecting baseline data for microplastic contamination around Iqaluit, Nunavut, and developing tools for effective community-based monitoring" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC or Commission), which noted that the project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **19YN039**.

#### INFORMATION REQUEST

On July 31, 2019 the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening.

Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted on August 13, 2019 by the Proponent, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on August 27, 2019 NIRB sent a follow up email requesting that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On August 29, 2019 the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### ***Project Scope:***

The proposed “Microplastics in beach sediment: Collecting baseline data for microplastic contamination around Iqaluit, Nunavut, and developing tools for effective community-based monitoring” project is located within the Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region, within the City of Iqaluit. The Proponent intends to collect and analyze beach sediment samples for microplastic contamination and develop tools for effective community-based monitoring. The program is proposed to take place in September 2019.

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Beach surveys to be conducted on foot for plastic debris, with five (5) sites selected for sampling;
- Collection and analyses of beach sediment at each site;
- Assess two (2) current beach sediment sampling methods to develop tools for effective community-based monitoring of microplastics in beach sediment;
- Work with Environmental Technology Students as part of a workshop on plastics; and
- Use of local facilities and accommodations.

### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB’s online public registry at <http://www.nirb.ca/project/125478>.

The documents received include:

- *NPC Screening Referral*
- *NPC Project Application*
- *NIRB’s Online Application Form*
- *Non-technical Project Proposal summary in English, Inuktitut and French*
- *Project description*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB’s online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Carleton University’s project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **September 19, 2019**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that *proposed* project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment ([Appendix A](#)).

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at <http://www.nirb.ca/project/125478>.

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4622 or [motokiak@nirb.ca](mailto:motokiak@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Mia Otokiak  
Junior Technical Advisor  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Attachments: Appendix A: *Proposed* Project Specific Terms and Conditions

Enclosures (6): Public Notice of Screening (English, French and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, French and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Mosha Cote, Nunavut Research Institute

## **Appendix A**

### *Proposed Project Specific Terms and Conditions*

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

#### **General**

1. Carleton University (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
2. The Proponent shall operate in accordance with all commitments stated in correspondence provided to the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC File No.: 149180) and the NIRB (Online Application Form, August 29, 2019).
3. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

#### **Waste Disposal**

4. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags placed in a covered metal container or equivalent until disposed of at an approved facility. All such wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

#### **Wildlife - General**

5. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
6. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently circling, chasing, hovering over pursuing or in any other way harass wildlife, or disturbing large groups of animals.
7. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
8. The Proponent shall ensure that all project personnel are made aware of the measures to protect wildlife and are provided with training and/or advice on how to implement these measures.

#### **Migratory Birds and Raptors Disturbance**

9. The Proponent shall minimize activities during periods when birds are particularly sensitive to disturbance such as migration, nesting and moulting.

#### **Land Use**

10. The Proponent shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.

#### **Restoration of Disturbed Areas**

11. The Proponent shall remove all garbage, and equipment upon abandonment.
12. The Proponent shall ensure that all disturbed areas are restored to a stable or pre-disturbed state as practical as possible upon completion of field work.

#### **Other**

13. The Proponent should engage with local residents regarding planned activities in the area and should solicit available Inuit Qaujimaningit and information regarding current recreational and

traditional usage of the project area which may inform project activities. Posting of translated public notices and direct engagement with potentially interested groups and individuals prior to undertaking project activities is strongly encouraged.

14. The Proponent shall ensure that project activities do not interfere with Inuit wildlife harvesting or traditional land use activities.
15. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and access local services where possible.