



NIRB File No.: 20UN005

April 14, 2020

To: The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, P.C.
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca and jonathan.wilkinson@parl.gc.ca

Re: **Extension Request for NIRB Screening of Parks Canada’s “Douglas Harbour Shelter” Project Proposal**

Dear Honourable Minister:

On February 25, 2020 the NIRB received a referral to screen Parks Canada’s “Douglas Harbour Shelter” project proposal directly from Parks Canada pursuant to s. 167 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). The NIRB notes that the proposed project would be located within the Ukkusiksalik National Park and pursuant to s. 70(1) of the *NuPPAA*, the Nunavut Planning Commission conformity determination process does not apply.¹ **Pursuant to s. 92(4) of the *NuPPAA*, the NIRB hereby requests that the responsible Minister extend the period for the submission of the Board’s written report for the screening of this project proposal, NIRB File No. 20UN005.**

On February 25, 2020 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. On March 5, 2020 the NIRB received the required additional information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*. On March 20, 2020 the NIRB distributed notice of the project proposal to potentially affected communities and interested parties with a request for comments to be submitted for the Board’s consideration by April 6, 2020.

Due to additional time required to address the potential for operational challenges for affected communities and interested parties associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the NIRB is unable to provide its written report for the screening of this project proposal within the 45 days

¹ Subsection 70(1) states of the *NuPPAA*: This Part and the broad planning policies, priorities and objectives, the specific planning objectives and any land use plan, established under this Part, do not apply in respect of a park that has been established or to a historic place that has been designated under the *Historic Sites and Monuments Act* and is administered by the Parks Canada Agency.

as set out in the *NuPPAA* and additional time is requested to complete the decision-making for this file. The NIRB anticipates that the screening of this project proposal will be completed by **April 29, 2020**, at which time a screening decision report will be submitted to the responsible Minister for consideration; should any additional time be required to conclude the screening process, the NIRB commits to providing further updates as deemed appropriate.

If this request is approved, the NIRB understands that the Minister will notify the Proponent and the NIRB of the extension.

All documents received and pertaining to the NIRB's screening of this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at www.nirb.ca/project/125509.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding this request, please contact our office toll free at 1-866-233-3033.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barry
Executive Director
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Monty Yank, Parks Canada
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada