

# Western Atlas Resources

July 3, 2020

**To:** Phillip Putumiraqtuq  
Baker Lake Hunters and Trappers Organization

**Re: Western Atlas Resources Introduction, Work Program 2020**

Dear Phillip,

On July 2, 2020, we have received your Letter in which you rightly express your concerns about having people from outside staying in the Baker Lake community.

I would like to start by saying that we completely understand your concerns and are aware of the current situation. Our commitment to the safety and well-being of all our employees and that of the Nunavut community in which the Company operates, is our priority. We care so much about the health, wellbeing and safety of the Baker Lake community that have been taking extreme measures and have implemented operational procedures aimed at eliminating the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission.

As I'm writing this letter, myself and the entire Western Atlas Resources team is quarantining in a facility in Winnipeg that has been designated for this purpose by the relevant authority and following the requirements of the Chief Public Health Officer of Nunavut (CPHO).

The Baker Lake community has been our home during the past 3 years. During these three years we conducted ourselves and our exploration program in an exemplary manner.

## **Background:**

1. On April 29, 2020 we have communicated our exploration plan together with the safety and health plan to the Senior Administrative Officer at the Municipality of Baker Lake;
2. On June 10, 2020, the Head administrator of Baker Lake acknowledged the information we have provided to Council related to our proposed 2020 Exploration Program and added that the "...Municipal Council, at the June 4th 2020 Council Session, approved a motion indicating that they are open to Contractors/ Exploration Companies coming to the Municipality of Baker Lake as long as the visiting business adheres to the appropriate procedures outlined by the Chief Public Health Officer (CPHO) through the application process. Once and if approval is provided by the CPHO, the municipal Council will be informed, and we look forward to welcoming you to Baker Lake".

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3. On June 16, 2020, following CPHO's answer by email received on June 5, Western Atlas has provided the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer with all the required documentation regarding the exploration program (and related health and safety measures), our stay in Baker Lake; 9 Isolation reservation request forms for Winnipeg; airline reservation code for return tickets (from Winnipeg to Baker Lake) as requested; Baker Lake - Head Administration Support Letter; Letter- Introduction and Exploration of Proposal to the Head Administrator of Baker Lake; Meadowbank Gold Project Land use permit and Water use permit.
4. On June 22 and 23 2020, Western Atlas was informed by the Nunavut Reservation team that the Western Atlas team has been admitted to quarantine in a facility designated by the CPHO in Winnipeg and then be permitted to enter Nunavut. The team is currently undergoing the quarantine period.

## **COVID-19 situation and plan**

As already expressed, Western Atlas has been implementing safety and preventive measures, strict operational procedures and protocols for all its employees and cooperators aimed at eliminating the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission. Such measures and requirements have included, but not limited to:

- Obligatory initial quarantine (ongoing)
- Regular screening questionnaire, temperature taking
- Use of masks, gloves, sanitizers
- Social distancing
- Recommendation and implementation of strict hygiene measures.

Our plan is meant to protect the Community of Baker Lake by eliminating any interaction of the community with the Company's teams, unless authorized to do so in the form and way suggested by the relevant authorities.

There are no and there have been no cases of COVID-19 among the Company's team and cooperators.

## **About the Exploration Program 2020**

Pursuant to the results of previous three-year exploration program, the Company has planned up to 4,000 meter of diamond drilling on Block B, target B1 at its Meadowbank project:

- a) **Duration of the drill program:** up to 8 weeks
- b) **Pre-quarantine and Safety Measures:** Every member of the team is currently undergoing the obligatory quarantine period, daily screening questionnaire, temperature taking. Every member of

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the team uses masks, gloves, sanitizers, recommendation and implementation of strict hygiene measures. In addition, social distancing will be strictly respected if and when in presence of any member of the local community

- c) **Lodging:** All the teams will be staying at a house and two contiguous cabins on the edge of the Baker Lake community and by the road that takes to the airport. The accommodations are fully furnished and equipped with everything from kitchen to washer and dryer and can guarantee self-sustainment of our teams. The team is forbidden from leaving the houses except when transported back and forth directly to the airport and Heli transported to the drilling site
- d) **Transport:** The team will be arriving in Baker Lake after the mandatory quarantine and will be transported to the designated accommodations by a member of the team
- e) **Food:** Unless authorized otherwise all food will be shipped at the beginning of the campaign in sealed boxes directly from Winnipeg or elsewhere. Any additional food eventually needed will be bought directly at the stores or restaurants in Baker Lake by an authorized local person/s and delivered to the entrance of the houses thus avoiding any unnecessary contact with people from the community (unless authorized to do so)
- f) **Termination of the program:** At the end of the program we will be practicing deep cleaning and sanitation of the accommodation and any other facility we are authorized to use during our stay in Baker Lake.

As above mentioned during the past years, we have always been based in Baker Lake and have worked in complete harmony and respect in and with the community. Below are some of the Institutions, Companies and people we have worked with and are currently working with:

**Government Offices (*in addition to the permitting authorities the company generally deals with*)**

Municipality of Baker Lake – Support with finding and hiring local collaborators

**Collaborators hired during spring/summer 2017 and 2018**

Jason Subgut  
Samuel Iksiraq  
August Iksiraq  
Tommy Amaruq  
Anthyme Kadjuk  
Moses Kingilik

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Leo Kadjuk

## **Food, Accommodation and Transportation Service for our team members**

Siniktarvik Hotel: Rankin Inlet – food and accommodation

Nunamiut Lodge: Baker Lake – food and accommodation

Baker Lake Lodge: Baker Lake – food and accommodation, shuttles to airport

Northern Store: Baker Lake – food and supplies

Baker Lake Contracting & Supplies Ltd (BLCS): Baker Lake – food, accommodation, shuttles to airport, car rentals

Katimavik Suites: Rankin Inlet – food and accommodation

Iglu Hotel: Baker Lake – food and accommodation

Sanavik CO-OP: Baker Lake – food and supplies

Quickstop: Baker Lake – food

Taxi service from hotel to Airport – Rankin Inlet

Caribou Taxi service from Hotel to Airport – Baker Lake

## **Aircraft – Transportation and Air Cargo shipment service for our team members, exploration equipment, samples and additional material**

Canadian North Airlines

Canadian North Cargo

Calm Air

Calm Air Cargo

Custom Helicopters

HTSC (Helicopter Transport Services Canada Inc) – Helicopter company supporting planned summer exploration program

## **Logistics Service**

SK Construction: Baker Lake – Storage facilities, Building rental and services

Aviation Fuel Enterprises: Baker Lake – Helicopter fuel

Arctic Fuel services: Baker Lake - car rentals

R&R Corner store: Baker Lake – supplies

This is a brief outline of what we are planning, and we are happy to provide you with any additional information and details you may require.

We hope we had been able to bring some comfort and serenity to your concerns.

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Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Best Regards,



Fabio Capponi

President, Director

**Western Atlas Resources**

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cc. Dr. Mike Patterson, Chief Public Health Officer, Government of Nunavut  
Sheldon Dorey, Senior Administrative Officer, Baker Lake  
Kelli Gillard, Project Monitoring Manager, Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Erin Reimer, Technical Advisor, Nunavut Impact Review Board  
Tracey McCaie, Manager, Lands Administration for Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada  
Natalie O'Grady, Project Manager, Impact Assessment Department of Economic Development and  
Transportation  
Ashley Aupaluktuq-Burton, Lands Administrator Coordinator at Kivalliq Inuit Association Inc