



July 17, 2020

His Worship Joshua Arreak
Mayor, Hamlet of Pond Inlet

Mr. Eric Ootoovak
Chairperson, Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization

RE: 2020 Mary River Project Shipping Season

Dear Your Worship and Mr. Chairperson,

Thank you very much for taking the time to meet with Baffinland for the 2020 Pre-Shipping Season Meeting over two separate days (July 8 and 15, 2020) to discuss the upcoming shipping season. The 2020 Pre-season Communications Protocol that was shared on July 15, 2020 summarized pre-shipping season communications protocols that Baffinland has adopted in advance of the start of shipping. Baffinland received a notification from the MHTO Manager via email on July 3, 2020 confirming that the floe edge was closed on July 2nd at 12am. This letter is formal notification by Baffinland to the MHTO notifying the anticipated start date of shipping. **By way of this letter, I wish to inform you that Baffinland's 2020 Shipping Season may officially commence as early as Saturday, July 18th when ice conditions allow, the icebreaker MSV Botnica will make its first passage into Eclipse Sound to Milne Inlet, escorting two tug boats and two ore carriers.** Baffinland will provide to the MHTO and Hamlet via email the most likely shipping schedule on the first day shipping begins. As shared during the Pre-Shipping Season Meeting, between 70-75 ore carriers are expected to travel to and from Milne Port (140 to 150 transits). An additional 3 sealift vessels and up to 4 fuel tankers will also travel to Milne Port.

Baffinland will keep you informed on all shipping season updates as they are available. Shipping Monitors have been hired in the community of Pond Inlet and will be using a variety of methods including Facebook, local radio and marine VHF radio to keep Pond Inlet residents informed about shipping activities. I would like to personally thank you for your efforts to work directly with Baffinland to improve the way we communicate with you, and the residents of Pond Inlet.

Baffinland will continue to use the same operational practices implemented in 2019 including escorted vessels using the icebreaker, reduced ship transits under heavier ice conditions and will continue the practice of having no more than three (3) vessels anchored at Ragged Island and/or drifting.

One of the key approaches for successful implementation of improved communications includes the hire of two Shipping Monitors based out of the Pond Inlet Baffinland office, with an additional two that will be starting shortly. They will act as the primary liaison between the community of Pond Inlet, the MHTO, and Baffinland to discuss and/or resolve potential issues related to Baffinland shipping operations. Monitors will be working in shifts in order to cover the greatest in-person daily availability from the Pond Inlet office, or through scanning of communications through marine VHF radio (local channel 26). A dedicated email address has been created shipping@baffinland.com, and will be monitored by Baffinland staff, including the on-duty Shipping Monitor. It is hoped that this increased local presence will provide the necessary availability for residents of Pond Inlet to communicate with Baffinland over the entire shipping season.

In addition to interacting directly with Shipping Monitors, vessel traffic may be monitored through a variety of methods including:

- 1) Accessing the Baffinland website (www.baffinland.com) and following the path to "Operation>Shipping & Monitoring";
- 2) Visiting the Pond Inlet Baffinland office once office hours resume to observe live tracking of vessels (including non-Baffinland vessels) through the Automatic Identification System (AIS) monitoring station, and learning more about the type of vessels that Baffinland requires for its operations (Please note that at present the Baffinland office remains closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic);
- 3) Announcements about upcoming vessel activity will be made on the local Pond Inlet radio on a daily and/or weekly basis;
- 4) Periodic announcements of daily and upcoming vessel activity on marine VHF radio channel 26;
- 5) Accessing Facebook pages for Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation, Pond Inlet News and Pond Inlet Hunters Information pages for periodic postings about shipping activities.

Baffinland will make available a 2020 Shipping Fact sheet that will be posted publically throughout key locations in the community and available in Baffinland's Pond Inlet Shipping Monitor office (should it re-open to the public) to ensure residents are informed about ongoing Baffinland shipping activities. Baffinland may update the fact sheet over the 2020 shipping season to reflect questions, comments and concerns received. New fact sheets will be publicly distributed should updates be made.

Should you or other community members have additional questions about Baffinland shipping activities in 2020 they can contact me, or Geneviève Morinville, Manager Environmental, Social and Governance by email, genevieve.morinville@baffinland.com, or phone, 1-416-574-6848. Questions and concerns may also be sent via email to the dedicated shipping email address (shipping@baffinland.com).

Thank you once again for your continued collaboration. We look forward to a safe and productive shipping season.

Sincerely,



Megan Lord-Hoyle
Vice President, Sustainable Development

cc.

Enookie Inuarak, Vice-Chair, MHTO
Danny Maktar, Deputy-Mayor, Hamlet of Pond Inlet
David Stockley, Chief Administrative Office, Hamlet of Pond Inlet
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Udlu Hanson, Vice President, Community and Strategic Development, Baffinland
Joe Tigullaraq, Head of Northern Affairs, Baffinland
Geneviève Morinville, Manager Environmental, Social and Governance, Baffinland
Andrew Moore, Manager Government Relations and Public Affairs, Baffinland