

**From:** [Talia Maksagak](#)  
**To:** [Info](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Correspondence from the Minister of Northern Affairs  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:39:45 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

----- Original message -----

From: "Ministre AN - Minister NA (AADNC/AANDC)" <[aadnc.ministrea-ministerna.aandc@canada.ca](mailto:aadnc.ministrea-ministerna.aandc@canada.ca)>  
Date: 2020-07-13 8:31 a.m. (GMT-07:00)  
To: Karen Costello <[kcostello@nirb.ca](mailto:kcostello@nirb.ca)>  
Subject: Correspondence from the Minister of Northern Affairs



July 10, 2020

Ms. Karen Costello  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
PO Box 1360  
29 Mitik Street  
CAMBRIDGE BAY NU X0B 0C0

Dear Ms. Costello:

I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Executive Director and extend my thanks for the leadership of the Nunavut Impact Review Board. I am very appreciative of your board members and staff for their hard work during the unprecedented times we are living in due to COVID-19. I am sure their roles over the last several months have not been easy, but the Board's commitment to their work has not gone unnoticed.

I am writing to you today regarding the calls from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation to request resuming the public review process for the Baffinland Phase 2 reconsideration. The Qikiqtani Inuit Association and Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation have reached a significant milestone by successfully

negotiating their “Inuit Certainty Agreement” (ICA) on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, which reflects the resolution of many of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association’s technical issues and other related matters to the project moving forward. Given this, and as per section 114 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, I propose that it is appropriate to recommence the formal reconsideration at this time.

As Minister of Northern Affairs, I remain committed to ensuring that resource projects and the processes associated with reviewing these projects respect all partners involved. I recommend that in the Board’s planning of the remaining reconsideration process, the public hearings respect both the conditions set out by Qikiqtani Inuit Association, including hearing dates in Pond Inlet and an in-person component to the remaining schedule, and all conditions set out by Nunavut’s Chief Public Health Officer. I trust that the Board will continue to provide opportunities for all parties, especially community members, to provide input into the process going forward. Doing so will ensure that the remaining process, including the public hearings, can be completed safely, yet in a timely and accessible manner, for all involved.

Sincerely,



Hon. Daniel Vandal, P.C., M.P.

Canada 