



December 15, 2020

Nunavut Impact Review Board  
29 Mitik Street  
PO Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut  
X0B 0C0

Attn: Ms. Marjorie Kaviq Kaluraq  
Re: Statement of Support for Baffinland Iron Mines, Phase 2 Proposal

Dear Madame Chair,

I am an owner of QAJAQ Northern Builders Inc. ("QAJAQ"). I am writing you to confirm our support for the Baffinland Iron Mines ("Baffinland") Phase 2 Proposal to expand the Mary River Mine. Our business, based in Iqaluit, Nunavut, is majority-owned by Inuit and we have provided services to Baffinland this year. I am excited to be a part of this venture and I am passionate about the development of our people and our communities, which aims to incorporate Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit and Inuit cultural relevancy.

We understand that Baffinland has committed to ensuring the Inuit will benefit from the expansion. They have assured us that our business will be a key player in living up to these commitments. For example, as a majority Inuit-owned firm, we will operate alongside Baffinland in compliance with its strict management of maritime and terrestrial environment. We expect to participate in construction, logistics, and training services for the Mine and Inuit-employment is a foundation of our organization.

We were pleased to see the commitments made by Baffinland through the review process and which are solidified in the Inuit Certainty Agreement. We expect this agreement to provide direct benefits to the growth and prosperity of our business, and ensure the project is developed in an environmentally sustainable manner with direct funding provided to Inuit for day care, training and development. We believe this is an opportunity to participate in the implementation of the Nunavut Agreement and help reduce poverty and socioeconomic challenges Nunavummiut face.

On behalf of Inuit who work for QAJAQ and the communities in which we operate, I support Baffinland's Phase 2 Project Proposal and encourage the Nunavut Impact Review Board to recommend approval.

I hope to see you in January 2021 during the hearings.

Yours Truly,

Jena Merkosak  
Vice President  
QAJAQ Northern Builders Inc.

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