

Response of the Hamlet of Pond Inlet to late filing by Baffinland

The Hamlet of Pond Inlet is responding the late filing by Baffinland of the document 210414-08MN053 'Potential Solutions'.

As the material contained in the second submission, has previously been made available to intervenors, the Hamlet's objection is limited to procedural considerations and Board policies and practices with regard to late submissions, making reference to the precedent set by the Board's response to a late filing by Oceans North, noted in what follows.

The Hamlet objects to the late filing, given the content of slides 3-7.

- The Hamlet has no objections to Baffinland working on creative solutions to training and employment issues, whether or not Phase 2 receives ultimate approval.
- However, as the Hamlet has pointed out, no formal or summative evaluations have been done of existing training and job preparation programs. The Hamlet notes this as a serious problem in relation to Baffinland's claims about its socio-economic effects, and the rating it has given to these affects in its Phase to application Addendum document.
- The Hamlet notes that in Slide 3, Baffinland indicates that it has spent \$1.5 million to date on training programs. The Hamlet notes with regret, that over the years, Baffinland has spent this amount of money without conducting any social science research and formal evaluation of the effectiveness or impact of its programs on Inuit participants and their experience with Baffinland's training initiatives.
- Without this information, the design of new initiatives going forward are uninformed by Inuit experience and responses to what has already taken place with regard to training and education.
- What is being proposed is a last minute response to concerns raised in the final stages of the hearing process. These are initiatives that could have been fully developed and should have been informed by properly done program evaluation research and community consultation some considerable time ago.
- The timing of the introduction of this new information does not permit Mittimatalingmiut to respond to the proposals. It does not provide them with an opportunity to better understand the content and opportunities being proposed. It does not allow for a proper and full consideration by Hamlet Council as a result of feedback received from community members or current employees.

- The N.I.R.B. has clearly indicated that the current proceedings are an extension of past hearings and that this is not the time for the submission of new evidence.
- Accepting this as a late submission to the NIRB registry is inconsistent with previous actions taken by NIRB (February 4, 2021) with regard to late submissions, particularly with regard to a late submission by Oceans North. To quote counsel for NIRB, Ms. Teresa Meadows, "... on January 29, 2021 during the Public Hearing the Panel ruled that the Pre-recorded Presentation of Mr. West was inadmissible because it was a substantive new presentation that was filed outside the January 18, 2021 deadline for filing presentations. This procedural direction remains applicable to the presentation regardless of the format of the presentation, whether by Mr. West directly or in pre-recorded format."

Respectfully submitted:

Joshua Arreak

Mayor

Hamlet of Pond Inlet

04/15/2021