



special significance to the survivors and future generations. Thus, the Department of Culture and Heritage considers that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there could be sites of archaeological/cultural significance on the lands affected by the current project (NA Article 33.5.12; 33.5.13).

Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?

On the basis that no systematic archaeological surveys have been conducted in the proposed exploration areas and associated components (camp, airstrip) and that the presence and/or the potential for the presence or archaeological/heritage resources is extremely high, the Department of Culture and Heritage recommends that an archaeological program be initiated prior to any land disturbance activities in order to record archaeological/heritage sites and implement appropriate mitigation measures.

CH recommendations are the following:

1. A qualified archaeologist must apply for a Class 2 permit to conduct an archaeological field assessment of any areas subject to ground disturbance activities (camp and associated components, airstrip).
2. Assessment of drilling locations (50 m radius) and water hose to the closest water source intake; assessment of any sampling, prospecting, and all other locations where land disturbance activities are planned to occur.
3. No activities be conducted in the vicinity (50 m buffer zone) of any archaeological/historical sites. If archaeological sites or features are encountered, activities should immediately be interrupted and moved away from this location. Each site encountered needs to be recorded and reported to the Government of Nunavut Territorial Archaeology Office.

All archaeological and palaeontological sites in Nunavut are protected under the Nunavut Act. The Proponent must understand that it is their responsibility to ensure that no heritage resource sites are disturbed in the course of their activities. No person shall alter, or otherwise disturb an archaeological site, or remove any artifact from an archaeological site without the proper authorizations. Moreover, the building of inuksuit is not recommended.

Do you support the project proposal? Yes No Any additional comments?

Pending archaeological assessment.

Name of person commenting: Sylvie LeBlanc **of** Culture and Heritage

Position: Territorial Archaeologist **Organization:** Government of Nunavut

Signature: Sylvie LeBlanc **Date:** May 14, 2021