



# CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for University of New Hampshire- Center for Coastal and Ocean Mapping's "HEALY2021 Transit" Project Proposal



GCDOCS # 95925596



Nunavut Regional Office  
P.O. Box 100  
Iqaluit, NU, X0A 0H0

Your file - Votre référence  
21YN017  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCdocs# 95925596

July 19, 2021

Mia Otokiak  
Junior Technical Advisor I  
Nunavut Impact Review Board  
P.O. Box 1360  
Cambridge Bay, NU, X0B 0C0  
via NIRB public registry

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment request for the University of New Hampshire's "HEALY2021 Transit" Project Proposal**

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On June 28, 2021 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on the University of New Hampshire's "HEALY2021 Transit" project proposal. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and offers the responses below as it pertains to the NIRB's request:

**Whether the Project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures);**

#### **CIRNAC #1: Fuel and the Identification of Environmental Impacts Matrix**

CIRNAC notes that the Proponent has not indicated any mitigation measures for potential spills that may occur during the proposed activities, and that the *Identification of Environmental Impacts* matrix does not indicate the potential negative effects of fuel spills on water.

Given that there is a potential for fuel spills on the marine environments, CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent provide rationale for not identifying potential negative effects of fuel spills on water in the *Identification of Environmental Impacts* matrix. Additionally, CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent should develop and submit a spill



management plan to identify potential mitigation measures and spill response for fuel spills that may occur during project activities.

**Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal;**

**CIRNAC #2: Consultation with interested parties.**

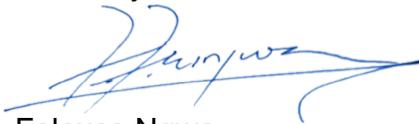
CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult with Indigenous groups with overlapping claims within the project area as well as other interested parties including but not limited to Indigenous governments and organizations within the Yukon, and Northwest Territories as well as Nunavut municipalities, Hunters and Trappers Organizations, community members and other organizations that may have an interest in the project's activities. Particular attention should be directed to communities situated in close proximity to the planned transit route (i.e., Resolute Bay, Arctic Bay, Pond Inlet, and Grise Fiord).

Issues that should be considered as part of any consultation activities should include, but not limited to:

- Incorporation of Inuit knowledge and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit into project activities;
- Mitigation measures designed to prevent any disturbance to wildlife and the environment;
- The experience of community members who participate in traditional and non-traditional activities within or in close proximity to the project area;
- Training and employment opportunities for community members;
- Procurement opportunities for local businesses, and
- Regular updates on the status of project activities.

CIRNAC appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and looks forward to working with the NIRB and the Proponent throughout any further review phases related to this project. Should you have any questions, please contact Courtney White by e-mail at [courtney.white@canada.ca](mailto:courtney.white@canada.ca) or David Abernethy by telephone at (867) 222-1610 or email at [david.abernethy@canada.ca](mailto:david.abernethy@canada.ca) for further information.

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa  
Manager, Impact Assessment

