



# CIRNAC Comments to NIRB

Re: Notice of Screening for Université de Sherbrooke's  
"Geological Study and Mapping of Hydrothermal  
Deposits and Gossans at Expedition Fiord, Axel  
Heiberg Island, as Analogs for Mars" Project Proposal



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

Your file - Votre référence  
22YN015  
Our file - Notre référence  
GCdocs# 102913009

May 5, 2022

Mia Otokiak  
Junior Technical Advisor  
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 Université de Sherbrooke's "Geological Study and Mapping of Hydrothermal Deposits and Gossans at Expedition Fiord, Axel Heiberg Island, as Analogs for Mars" Project Proposal**

Dear Mia Otokiak,

On April 25, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) invited parties to comment on Université de Sherbrooke's "Geological Study and Mapping of Hydrothermal Deposits and Gossans at Expedition Fiord, Axel Heiberg Island, as Analogs for Mars" 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:

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

**CIRNAC #1: Potential for Positive Effects to Inuit Through Employment, Training, and Procurement Opportunities**

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent prioritize the employment and training of local Inuit as well as procurement with Inuit-owned businesses when implementing project activities. Such efforts will allow for positive effects to be realized by community members and the local Inuit population. As a result, Inuit and Inuit-owned businesses situated in Grise Fiord should be prioritized in any project-related employment, training, and procurement opportunities that may be made available.

**CIRNAC #2: Consultation with Interested Parties**

CIRNAC recommends that the Proponent consult with the Hamlet of Grise Fiord, the Iviq (Grise Fiord) Hunters & Trappers Association, as well as any other community members or organizations which may have an interest in the project's activities. Issues that should be considered as part of any consultation activities include:

- 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 Richard Bingley by e-mail at [richard.bingley2@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:richard.bingley2@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca) or Jalen Tagoona at (867) 975-4663 or email at [jalen.tagoona@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca](mailto:jalen.tagoona@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca).

Sincerely,



Felexce Ngwa  
Manager, Impact Assessment

