

**From:** [Calvin Ehloak](#)  
**To:** [lyle.whyte@mcgill.ca](mailto:lyle.whyte@mcgill.ca)  
**Cc:** [nirb info](#)  
**Subject:** NIRB: Online Public Registry for McGill University's "Developing new technologies to access and investigate the hypersaline, subzero Devon Island Subglacial Lake System, a unique Mars and icy moon analogue" Project Proposal  
**Date:** May 30, 2022 8:52:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [220530-22YN036-NPC Conformity Determination-IA2E.pdf](#)

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30-May-2022

Dear Lyle Whyte:

On May 30, 2022 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral to screen McGill University's "Developing new technologies to access and investigate the hypersaline, subzero Devon Island Subglacial Lake System, a unique Mars and icy moon analogue" proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (the Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

The NIRB now processes applications through an online public registry system and as a result the NIRB requires the proponent to complete the online application form in order to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and to ensure sufficient information has been provided to commence screening. **The NIRB will no longer accept applications or supporting documents via e-mail or regular mail.**

On the NIRB Public Registry all project assessments now have a unique individual page called a Project Dashboard, the information provided in your application populates this project dashboard allowing all documentation more accessible in English, Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun and French. The online application can be accessed by registering and account at [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) through the link found in the upper right hand corner of the webpage. Accounts will require approval prior to having access to the online application (usually less than 24 hours). Please keep your project title brief but descriptive, as the project title will be used for the lifetime of the project and in communications with local communities. You can access the project title on the application form. If you have any questions regarding the proposed project title, please contact the NIRB as described below.

Please include a non-technical summary description of the proposed project in English and in the applicable languages of all potentially-affected communities: Inuktitut (Kivalliq, North/South Baffin, Eastern Kitikmeot), Inuinnaqtun (Cambridge Bay, Kugluktuk, Bay Chimo and Bathurst Inlet) and French (City of Iqaluit).

The summary should use plain language only and address the following points in < 5,000 characters:

- **Who:** Company, individual or entity proposing the project.
- **What:** The type of undertaking being proposed and how it would be carried out. It may be helpful to describe the scale of the project, number of people involved, permanence of any facilities constructed, and methods of transport.
- **Why:** The objective of and need for the project, potential long term implications.

**Where:** general location of proposed activities in relation to closest communities, protected areas.

- **When:** timeframe of proposed activities (fixed period, seasonal, multi-year).

Please keep in mind that the project summary is intended to provide members of the public with sufficient information to understand what is being proposed and determine whether they might wish to further review the full project application and supporting information.

- *Please be advised that this online application form requires the use of Unicode-based fonts for Inuktitut translations, such as Pigiarniq. Older ASCII syllabic fonts, such as ProSyl, will not work with this application.*
- *To type in Pigiarniq, or other Unicode syllabic fonts you will need the font itself and a keyboard driver to produce the syllabic characters, available from:*  
<http://www.ch.gov.nu.ca/en/ComputerTools.aspx>

Please be advised that pursuant to paragraph 92(3)(b) of the NuPPAA, the 45-day timeline for the Board to provide a screening decision stops on the date of this notice. This 45-day timeline will start again on the date the NIRB receives a completed application and all the requested additional information. If the proponent fails to submit the requested information, the Board may suspend or terminate the assessment activities of the proposed project pursuant to the relevant provisions under section 144 of the NuPPAA. Therefore, it is in McGill University's best interest to provide the identified information in a timely manner.

Our administrative staff is committed to assisting with any and all inquiries you may have as you familiarize yourself with the NIRB's online Public Registry system. For general assistance or to report a problem, please contact the NIRB at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or call us toll-free at 1-866-233-3033.

Best regards,

Calvin Ehaloak  
Environmental Administrator

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