



**NIRB File No.: 22TN063**  
NPC File No.: 149913

February 7, 2023

Ken MacDiarmid  
Black Feather  
76 Rankin Lake Road  
Seguin, Ontario P2A 0B2

Sent via email: [ken@blackfeather.com](mailto:ken@blackfeather.com)

**Re: Notice of Screening for Black Feather's "Black Feather Request for Commercial Guiding Permit in Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary" project proposal**

Dear Ken MacDiarmid:

On December 8, 2022, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) received a referral to screen Black Feather's "Black Feather Request for Commercial Guiding Permit in Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary" project proposal from the Nunavut Planning Commission (Commission), with an accompanying positive conformity determination with the North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan.

Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*), the NIRB has commenced screening this project proposal and has assigned it file number **22TN063**.

#### INFORMATION REQUEST

On December 9, 2022, the NIRB requested that the Proponent complete the online application form through the NIRB's public registry system and ensure, pursuant to s. 144(1) of the *NuPPAA*, that sufficient information is provided to determine the scope of the project activities being proposed and commence screening.

Following a preliminary completeness check of the proposal as submitted on January 11, 2023, by the Proponent, the NIRB determined that the proposal did not contain the necessary information for the NIRB to carry out its screening and on February 1, 2023, requested that the Proponent provide the Board with the additional information in order to carry out the screening of the project proposal. On February 2, 2023, the NIRB received the required information and commenced the screening pursuant to Part 3 of the *NuPPAA*.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

### ***Project Scope:***

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125748](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125748).

<b>Project:</b>	Black Feather Request for Commercial Guiding Permit in Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary				
<b>Region:</b>	Qikiqtani (North Baffin)				
<b>Location:</b>	Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary				
<b>Closest Community:</b>	Pond Inlet	<b>Distance (approximate)</b>	30 kilometres (km)	<b>Direction</b>	North
<b>Summary of Project Description:</b>	The Proponent intends to conduct adventure tourism trips based out of Pond Inlet and would like a permit to access the Bylot Island Migratory Bird Sanctuary.				
<b>Project Proposed Timeline:</b>	April 2023 to August 2025				

According to the project proposal, the scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Setup and removal of a temporary base camp on ice/snow for the Ski and Floe Edge trips, and on sand/gravel for the Hiking trips:
  - Camp to support up to 16 people at a time;
  - Camp to include sleeping tents, work tents, dining and kitchen shelter tents;
- Tourist activities to include:
  - Visits to the floe edge;
  - Sightseeing, and wildlife watching;
  - Photography and filming surrounding areas;
  - Hiking, skiing, kayaking;
- Use of snowmobiles and qamutiks to transport personnel and equipment to facilitate tourist activities;
- Hiring of local personnel as guides, bear monitors and other personnel as needed;
- Transportation, storage and use of fuel (gasoline, naptha, diesel) and propane;
- Use of snow and ice for domestic purposes;
- Production of human and grey waste water; and;
- Removal of wastes (sewage and garbage) for proper disposal.

### ***Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List***

At this time, the NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal. As a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

All documents received can be accessed from the NIRB's online public registry [www.nirb.ca/project/125748](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125748) and include:

- *Commission Conformity Determination*
- *Commission Application & Questionnaire*
- *NIRB Application*
- *Project Summary*
- *Environmental Impacts & Mitigation Plan*

The NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the NIRB's online registry for public access. The NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process.

The NIRB is copying parties and municipalities potentially affected by Black Feather's project proposal with this letter, and we invite interested parties to comment directly to the NIRB by **February 28, 2023**.

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send your comments to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), via fax at (867) 983-2594 or via the individual project dashboard for this assessment on the NIRB's online public registry at [www.nirb.ca/project/125748](http://www.nirb.ca/project/125748).

If you have any questions or require clarification, feel free to contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4622 or [motokiak@nirb.ca](mailto:motokiak@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Mia Otokiak  
Technical Advisor I  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosures (4): Public Notice of Screening (English, and Inuktitut)  
Comment Forms (English, and Inuktitut)

cc: Distribution List  
Carson Gillis, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Jorgen Aitaok, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated  
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Alexander Stubbing, Government of Nunavut – Department of Culture and Heritage  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut – Department of Environment  
Agnes Simonfalvy, Government of Nunavut - Department of Economic Development and  
Transportation  
Lisa Pirie-Dominix, Canadian Wildlife Services  
Jane Chisholm, Parks Canada