



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 22YN022**

NPC File No.: 149723

February 17, 2023

To: Alasdair Beattie
Team Lead
301-5204 50th Ave
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2

Mosha Cote
Manager, Research Liaison
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: Alasdair.beattie@dfo-mpo.gc.ca, mosha.cote@arcticcollege.com

**Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for Memorial University's
"Investigating Scott Inlet seeps with autonomous underwater vehicles" Project
Proposal, Qikiqtani Region**

Dear Alasdair Beattie, Mosha Cote:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Joyce Murray, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard for Memorial University's "Investigating Scott Inlet seeps with autonomous underwater vehicles" in the Qikiqtani Region, dated February 17, 2023.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister that **a review of the project is not required** in accordance with s. 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (*NuPPAA*). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of s. 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to

proceed.” Contravention of s. 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact the undersigned at (867) 983-4616 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Francis Emingak
Acting Manager, Technical Administration
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 22YN022 (February 17, 2023)

cc: Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
Stephen Williamson Bathory, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association