



NPC File No. 149967

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**RE: NPC File # 149967 [Rapid assessment of tundra plant diversity using small bits of genetic code found in the soil]**

1. Conduct scientific research: Proponent intends to test a new protocol that could make finding the different kinds of plants in the tundra a lot easier. The protocol would use small fragments of the plants' genetic code found in soil that can tell us which plants are found close by. Proposed activities include:
  - Collect soil samples from three 300 m x 300 m tundra locations around Cambridge Bay and extract the plants' genetic code in the laboratory of the Canadian High Arctic Research Station. This would include a survey of the plants by eye and use of drones to create maps of each location. The plant surveys will help test the quality of the protocol and the maps would show us how the samples fit into the landscape.
  - Examine how soil nutrients and microbes influence the kinds of plant that can be found in an area of tundra.
2. Location: Kitikmeot Region; [Cambridge Bay].

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The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) has determined that this project proposal is outside the area of an applicable regional land use plan. The project proposal requires screening by the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) because it does not belong to a class of exempt works or activities set out in Schedule 12-1 of the Nunavut Agreement.

By way of this letter, the NPC is forwarding the project proposal to the NIRB for screening. Project materials are available at the following address:

<https://lupit.nunavut.ca/portal/project-dashboard.php?appid=149967&sessionid=>

This decision applies only to the above noted project proposal as submitted. Proponents may not carry out projects and regulatory authorities may not issue licenses, permits and other authorizations in respect of projects if a review by the NPC is required.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (867) 447-4563.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'SA' with a horizontal line extending from the 'A'.

Solomon Amuno, PhD  
Senior Planner  
Nunavut Planning Commission