



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT  
NIRB FILE NO.: 23YN022**

NPC File No.: 149967

June 19, 2023

To: Mosha Cote  
Manager, Research Liaison  
P.O Box 1720  
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: [mosha.cote@arcticcollege.com](mailto:mosha.cote@arcticcollege.com)

**Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for University of Zurich’s “Rapid assessment of tundra plant diversity using small bits of genetic code found in the soil” Project Proposal, Kitikmeot Region**

Dear Mosha Cote:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board’s (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Minister Joanna Quassa, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College for University of Zurich’s “Rapid assessment of tundra plant diversity using small bits of genetic code found in the soil” in the Kitikmeot Region, dated June 19, 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) 983-5627 or [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Brittany Hogaluk  
Technical Administration Coordinator  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 23YN022 (June 19, 2023)

cc: Wynter Kuliktana, Kitikmeot Inuit Association  
Tracey McCaie, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada