



August 9, 2023

His Worship Joshua Arreak
Mayor, Hamlet of Pond Inlet

Mr. David Qamaniq
Chairperson, Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers
Organization (MHTO)

RE: 2023 Mary River Project Shipping Season

Dear Your Worship and Mr. Chairperson,

I am writing to provide notice that Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation's (Baffinland) shipping season is commencing. It is anticipated that the first ore carriers of the 2023 shipping season will enter the Regional Study Area (RSA) within the next 24 hours. Baffinland's ice analysts have been closely monitoring Canadian Ice Service ice charts, weather data, and available satellite imagery to best inform our start to the shipping season and we are now at the 3/10 threshold to begin shipping.

IMPORTANT: The first passage of Project vessels into Eclipse Sound towards Milne Inlet will be a convoy of 1 resupply vessel followed by 2 tugs. These vessels are currently waiting near Erik Harbour and will begin passage immediately. The community may see them pass within the next 6-10 hours. Given the late start to the shipping season, these vessels were anticipated to arrive at Milne Port over a week ago and are now at risk of running out of potable water and supplies. Given this increased safety concern they need to make their way to Milne Inlet while it is safe to do so. Additionally, the current position of the remaining ice is such that the vessels travelling to Milne Inlet today will need to deviate from the established shipping route and will be closer in proximity to Pond Inlet.

Baffinland will use the same operational practices implemented in previous years. This includes the voluntary reduced vessel speeds of 9 knots, avoidance of no-go zones (e.g., Koluktoo Bay), established shipping route (with the exception of early shipping conditions where vessels may need to deviate from the route to avoid ice along the shipping route), and will continue the practice of having no more than three (3) vessels anchored at Ragged Island and/or drifting, as well as having vessels waiting at least 40 km to the east of the Nunavut Settlement Area in Baffin Bay before being called to Milne Port.

Should you or other community members have additional questions about Baffinland shipping activities in 2023 they can contact me, or Cortney Oliver, Sr. Manager, Environmental & Social Governance by email, cortney.oliver@baffinland.com or phone, 1-289-834-1121. Please also note our Shipping Monitors are working full time in Pond Inlet and can be contacted with any questions throughout the entirety of the shipping season.

Thank you once again for your continued collaboration. We look forward to a safe and productive shipping season.

Best Regards,

Megan Lord-Hoyle

Megan Lord-Hoyle
Vice President, Sustainable Development

Cc:
Enookie Inuarak, Vice-Chair MHTO
Jennifer Innuaraq, MHTO, Office Manager
Joshua Idlout, Deputy-Mayor, Hamlet of Pond Inlet
David Stockley, Chief Administrative Office, Hamlet of Pond Inlet
Jimmy Noble Jr., Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Virginia Mearns, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Udlu Hanson, Vice President, Community and Strategic Development, Baffinland
Lou Kamermans, Senior Director Sustainable Development, Baffinland
Joe Tigullaraq, Head of Northern Affairs, Baffinland
Cortney Oliver, Senior Manager, Environmental Social Governance, Baffinland
Ryan Berry, Acting Executive Director, Nunavut Impact Review Board