



# NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 25YN001

Project Name: The “Sikunnguaq – The Likeness or Image of Ice in Maps” project  
Proponent Name: University of Victoria  
Project Type: Research Region: Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani Regions  
Public Registry: [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca) Application No.: 126079  
Comment Deadline: **March 24, 2025**

## PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Sikunnguaq – The Likeness or Image of Ice in Maps” project is located within the Kitikmeot and Qikiqtani regions, approximately Dease Strait off the Coast of Cambridge Bay, Rasmussen Basin off the Coast of Gjoa Haven, Eclipse Sound off the Coast of Pond Inlet, and on the Sea Ice south of Qikiqtarjuaq. The Proponent intends to conduct research to develop sea ice information for satellite data to allow for safe sea ice travel needs, create image layers for map-makers in communities, and produce satellite and related training materials for satellite remote sensing technologies. This information would support Inuit *Qaujimajatuqangit* for mapping safe sea ice travel, and may improve health, safety, and climate resilience. The program is proposed to take place from March 2025 to May 2026. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Up to 12 snowmobiles to access field sites from project communities in 2025 and 2026
- Use of various devices for measuring interference regarding the sea ice/slush and water thickness;
- Collection of data related to air, snow, sea ice thickness, water temperature using various tools
- Up to 4 surveying drones to map sea ice surface roughness including a LIDAR drone

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **25YN001** to access all project information, maps, and public comment forms.

## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

**You are invited to provide the NIRB with your comments regarding whether the proposed project is:**

- likely to arouse significant public concern and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse ecosystemic or socio-economic effects and, if so, why;
- likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities and, if so, why;
- a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and can be prevented/managed appropriately with known technology.

Parties are also invited to recommend any specific mitigation measures they feel would be appropriate, and to bring any other matter of importance related to this project proposal to the NIRB’s attention.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**The NIRB has recently launched an updated online public registry, and parties can access project information as well as submit comments directly to the NIRB via [www.nirb.ca](http://www.nirb.ca).** Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca) or via fax to (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or require clarification regarding the proposed project or the NIRB’s screening process, please contact Robby Qammaniq, Impact Assessment Officer toll-free at 1-866-233-3033 or [rqammaniq@nirb.ca](mailto:rqammaniq@nirb.ca).