



## COMMENT FORM FOR NIRB SCREENINGS

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has a mandate to protect the integrity of the ecosystem for the existing and future residents of Nunavut. To assess the environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project proposal, NIRB would like to hear your concerns, comments and suggestions about the following project proposal application:

<b>Project Proposal Title:</b>	<b>Arctic Community Connectivity for Equity, Sustainability, and Service (ACCESS)</b>		
<b>Proponent:</b>	<b>University of Manitoba</b>		
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Kivalliq Region near Chesterfield Inlet</b>		
<b>Comments Due By:</b>	<b>July 4, 2025</b>	<b>NIRB #:</b>	<b>25YN012</b>

**Indicate your concerns about the project proposal below:**

<input type="checkbox"/> no concerns	<input type="checkbox"/> traditional uses of land
<input type="checkbox"/> water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Inuit harvesting activities
<input type="checkbox"/> terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> community involvement and consultation
<input type="checkbox"/> air quality	<input type="checkbox"/> local development in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> wildlife and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> tourism in the area
<input type="checkbox"/> marine mammals and their habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> human health issues
<input type="checkbox"/> birds and their habitat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <b>Regulatory Requirements</b> _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fish and their habitat	
<input type="checkbox"/> heritage resources in area	

**Please describe the concerns indicated above:**

Transport Canada (TC) is aware of the proponent's proposed use of a drone airship for this project. The proponent met with TC (Flight Operations Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) group) in February 2025 to share their preliminary plans regarding the drone airship. TC outlined the proponent's potential requirements under the Canadian Aviation Regulations and next steps, including a request for a Concept of Operations (essentially a more detailed plan of what the operation of the drone airship will entail). As of June 2025, TC awaits the Concept of Operations from the proponent and looks forward to continued discussion regarding regulatory requirements.

**Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for this application?**

For more information on Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA):

- As of April 1, 2025, changes were made to the drone regulations in the *Canadian Aviation Regulations*. <https://gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2025/2025-03-26/html/sor-dors70-eng.html>
- Here is a link to the [Summary of changes made in 2025 to Canada's drone regulations](#). Additional questions should be forwarded to [TC.RPASINFO-INFO@ATP.TC.gc.ca](mailto:TC.RPASINFO-INFO@ATP.TC.gc.ca).
- Visit CARs Part IX: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/corporate-services/acts-regulations/list-regulations/canadian-aviation-regulations-sor-96-433#part-ix>



- Visit the TC drone safety Web site: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/drone-safety>
- TC AIM – RPA chapter: <https://www.tc.gc.ca/en/services/aviation/publications/tc-aim.html>
- Visit the NRC Drone Site Selection Tool <https://cnrc.canada.ca/en/drone-tool/> and NAV Drone viewer <https://map.navdrone.ca/>
- Download the RPAS 101 Manual which provides general knowledge to Canadian RPA pilots: [https://www.aerialevolution.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Nov-27-RPAS-101\\_EN-Final.pdf](https://www.aerialevolution.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Nov-27-RPAS-101_EN-Final.pdf)
- To report an incident, safety issue or concern where an RPAS was involved, see <https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/drone-safety/report-drone-incident>
- For information about an upcoming special flight operations certificate (SFOC)—RPAS application, visit the SFOC-RPAS page of the TC Drone Safety Web site: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/drone-safety/drone-pilot-licensing/get-permission-special-drone-operations>. To obtain additional information or requests specific for a SFOC-RPAS application already made, e-mail to [TC.RPASCentre-CentreSATP.TC@tc.gc.ca](mailto:TC.RPASCentre-CentreSATP.TC@tc.gc.ca)

**Do you support the project proposal? Yes ☐ No ☐ Any additional comments?**

Transport Canada takes no position on whether NIRB should approve this project.

**Name of person commenting:** Jackie Barker **of** Winnipeg

**Position:** Regional Environmental Advisor **Organization:** Transport Canada

**Signature:**  **Date:** June 25, 2025