



NOTICE OF SCREENING OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

NIRB File No.: 25YN055

Project Name: The “Baseline Levels of Contaminants in Softshell Clam and the Characterization of Intertidal Invertebrate Communities near Qikiqtarjuaq, Nunavut” project

Proponent Name: University of Manitoba

Project Type: Research Region: Qikiqtani

Public Registry: www.nirb.ca Application No.: 126209

Comment Deadline: **August 4, 2025**

PROJECT SCOPE:

The proposed “Baseline Levels of Contaminants in Softshell Clam and the Characterization of Intertidal Invertebrate Communities near Qikiqtarjuaq, Nunavut” project is located within the Qikiqtani region, within the Qikiqtarjuaq area. The Proponent intends to collect 60 softshell clams (*Mya truncata*) and near shore invertebrates at three (3) different locations to measure the levels of contaminants. The program is proposed to take place from August 12th to October 12th, 2025. The scope of this proposed project as identified by the NIRB includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Using a boat, go on day trips to three different locations to collect 60 softshell clams by hand or by a SCUBA diver digging the clams underwater
- Utilize fuel purchased from local community for boat travel to sampling locations
- Collect some invertebrate species using grab samplers near the shores of Qikiqtarjuaq
- Take the samples collected to a laboratory to analyze the samples for contaminants

Please visit the NIRB’s public registry online at the link above and look up NIRB File No.: **25YN055** 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. Comments can still be submitted directly to the NIRB via email at 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 at rqammaniq@nirb.ca.