



NIRB File No.: 26YN028

NIRB Public Registry link: [www.nirb.ca/project/126449](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126449)

NPC File No.: 151055

May 14, 2026

Maire Vincent  
Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières  
3351 Bd des Forges Trois-Rivières  
Trois-Rivières, Quebec G8Z 4M3

Sent via email: [Vincent.maire@uqtr.ca](mailto:Vincent.maire@uqtr.ca)

**Re: Notice of Screening and Comment Request for Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières’ “Leaf photosynthesis of shrub species – Response to air temperature and climatic feedback” project proposal**

Dear Maire Vincent:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) has commenced screening<sup>1</sup> the project proposal.

**By copy of this letter, NIRB invites regulators, interested parties, and community members or groups potentially affected by the proposal to view the application and comment directly to the NIRB by June 4, 2026.**

The NIRB would like parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic or socio-economic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse impacts on wildlife habitat or Inuit harvest activities; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (and providing any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal

The application can be viewed on NIRB’s online registry [www.nirb.ca/project/126449](http://www.nirb.ca/project/126449) where a comment form is available, or comments can be also submitted to [info@nirb.ca](mailto:info@nirb.ca), or by fax.

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to Article 12, Sections 12.4.1 and 12.4.4 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and s. 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act*, S.C. 2013, c. 14, s. 2 (NuPPAA)

## Scope of proposal

<b>Location</b>	Qikiqtani (South Baffin) region. Within the municipal boundaries of Iqaluit and within the Sylvia Grinnell Territorial Park
<b>Objective</b>	The Proponent intends to measure leaf photosynthesis in four shrub species to find the optimal and threshold temperatures for carbon uptake and better understand how Arctic shrubs respond to warming temperatures.
<b>Timeline</b>	July to August 2026

The scope of the project includes the following undertakings, works or activities:

- Use of an ATV to transport equipment and personnel to selected study sites;
- Four shrub species would be targeted;
  - For each species and soil fertility condition, two individuals would be selected;
  - In total, 48 species would be studied across 3 sites, 2 fertilities, 4 species, and 2 individuals per species
- Recording stomatal conductance, leaf temperature, and plant height measurements, and collecting vegetation samples;
  - All disturbed sampling areas would be restored following sample collection;
- Installation, use, and removal of temporary temperature and relative humidity sensors at selected study sites;
- No permanent installations would remain on site;
- Photosynthetic measurements will be conducted using a portable gas exchange system; and
- Use of accommodation and services within the community of Iqaluit.

### *Inclusion or Exclusion of Scoping List*

The NIRB has identified no additional works or activities in relation to the project proposal; as a result, the NIRB will proceed with screening the project based on the scope as described above.

Questions about the NIRB's work should be directed to the undersigned at 1-866-233-3033 ext. 555 or [mbeattie@nirb.ca](mailto:mbeattie@nirb.ca).

Sincerely,



Mia Beattie  
Impact Assessment Officer  
Nunavut Impact Review Board

cc: Distribution List  
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Assol Kubesinova, Qikiqtani Inuit Association  
Justin Buller, Government of Nunavut, Department of Executive and Intergovernmental Affairs  
Dianne Lapierre, Government of Nunavut, Department of Community Services  
Sean Joseph, Government of Nunavut, Department of Community Services  
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment  
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment  
Salome Qaunaq, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment  
Paula Hughson, Government of Nunavut, Department of Environment