



NIRB File: 26YN048

link: www.nirb.ca/project/126475

Nunavut Planning Commission File No.: 151232

September 21, 2026

To: The Honourable Joanne Thompson
Minister of Fisheries
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Sent via email: joanne.thompson@parl.gc.ca

Re: Screening Decision for Royal Roads University's "Namminiqurniq Nunavut Ecosystems Field Course" Project Proposal, Oikiqtani Region

Dear Honourable Minister:

On July 2, 2026, the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a referral pursuant to the Nunavut Agreement and *NuPPAA* to conduct a screening¹ of Royal Roads University's (RRU) "Namminiqurniq Nunavut Ecosystems Field Course" project proposal and after completing the required process, the NIRB determined² that **a review of the project is not required** and recommended specific terms and conditions³.

The attached Screening Decision Report provides the regulatory framework, scope of proposal and Board's assessment process, public engagement, factors relevant for the determining significance of impacts, and recommended project-specific terms and conditions. Additional information on the project can be viewed on the NIRB's public registry at the link at the top of this letter.

The NIRB look forward to receiving a response from the Minister, and any questions on the Board's assessment process or the Screening Decision Report can be directed to the NIRB's Director, Operations, Tara Arko at 1-866-233-3033 EXT 500 or tarko@nirb.ca.

1 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 section 87 of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act (NuPPAA)*

2 Pursuant to s. 92(1)(a) of the *NuPPAA*

3 Pursuant to s. 92(2)(a) of the *NuPPAA*

Sincerely,



Albert Ehaloak
Chairperson for Screening Panel
Nunavut Impact Review Board

Enclosure (1): Screening Decision Report, NIRB File No.: 26YN048 (September 21, 2026)

cc: Regulators
The Honourable Brian Koonoo, Minister of Environment, Government of Nunavut
The Honourable David Akeagok, Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College, Government of Nunavut
Lootie Toomasie, Chairperson, Nunavut Water Board
Olayuk Akesuk, President, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
José Audet-Lecouffe, Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Richard Dwyer, Nunavut Water Board
Nidhi Singh, Nunavut Water Board
Abid Jan, Nunavut Water Board
Jared Ottenhof, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Chris Spencer, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Conor Goddard, Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Natalie D'Souza, Government of Nunavut
Michele LeBlanc-Havard, Government of Nunavut
Salome Qaunaq, Government of Nunavut
Paula Hughson, Government of Nunavut
Mosha Cote, Government of Nunavut
Jordan Hoffman, Royal Roads University