

NUNAVUT PLANNING COMMISSION  
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2016 DRAFT NUNAVUT LAND USE PLAN

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Nunavut Association of Municipalities  
PUBLIC HEARING WRITTEN SUBMISSION

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Filed by:  
Nunavut Association of Municipalities  
January 13, 2017

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Nunavut Association of Municipalities  
Submission for the Public Hearing on the 2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

January 13, 2017

## 1 Background and Objectives

The Nunavut Association of Municipalities (NAM) has an ongoing interest in the Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC) development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP or Plan) as it represents community officials across Nunavut. NAM makes important contributions to decisions about Nunavut communities and capital projects and provides a single voice for the mayors and municipal administrators of Nunavut's 25 communities.

NAM received a presentation by the NPC in 2008 with regard to the scoping of issues and process for the development of the NLUP, however has not been directly engaged since that time.

Where Hamlet organizations may be preparing and making independent submissions to the NPC in respect of the NLUP and upcoming Public Hearing, NAM provides this submission to the NPC as a representative of all communities in terms of considerations that may extend beyond regional and municipal boundaries and deal with larger issues at play throughout the Territory.

## 2 General Comments and Recommendations

### 2.1 Consistency with applicable legal requirements and policy context

NAM has comments with regard to the applicability of various sections of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) as it applies to the development of the current NLUP, specifically the NPC's approach in soliciting community perspectives.

Per NLCA Section 11.2.1, "The following principles shall guide the development of planning policies, priorities and objectives:

...

- c) the planning process shall ensure land use plans reflect the priorities and values of the residents of the planning regions;
- d) the public planning process shall provide an opportunity for the active and informed participation and support of Inuit and other residents affected by the land use plans; such participation shall be promoted through various means, including ready access to all relevant materials, appropriate and realistic schedules, recruitment and training of local residents to participate in comprehensive land use planning;" (*emphases added*)

As mentioned throughout this submission, NAM feels the NPC has neglected to consult with residents of Nunavut communities regarding the latest two drafts of the NLUP and that the NPC cannot possibly draw any conclusions as to whether the 2016 version reflects the priorities and values of Nunavummiut (per NLCA 11.2.1 c), since no formal mechanism for communities to provide feedback to the NPC has been provided since 2013. In 2012, the NPC had intensive consultations, beginning with mailing the DNLUP and supporting materials to municipalities and to Hunters and Trappers Organizations (HTO) for their review.

Nothing of this sort had been undertaken for the 2016 version; in fact the most recent version of the DNLUP was not sent to NAM or to Hamlets, instead communities were notified via a press release issued in June 2016. No community visits were held to advise of the current DNLUP or the NPC's process to enable public participation. At this point, the NPC has held regional Pre-Hearing Conferences with 5 representatives of each community in Nunavut, and plans to have these same 5 individuals representing communities during its public hearing slated for March 2017 – it is NAM's position that this in no way represents adequate community input to meet the requirements of the NLCA 11.2.1 items c and d.

NAM is of the opinion that the NPC should have conducted face-to-face consultation meetings with all Nunavut communities during the last three years to discuss the 2014 and 2016 NLUP versions and to enable information exchange that respects the Inuit tradition of oral communication. As this was not undertaken, and given the limited requests for comment that the NPC did provide for, NAM suggests that the NPC cannot possibly verify that it has accurately incorporated community values into the most recent draft.

Where the NPC noted in its press release announcing the June 2016 version of the NLUP that final public information sessions would be held in Fall 2016 and that all community members, planning partners, and interested parties were invited to participate in these sessions,<sup>1</sup> NAM notes that public information sessions would have provided communities with information about the plan whereas the Regional Pre-Hearing Conferences (PHC) held only in regional centres and with a set number of five representatives from each community are not a substitute for proper public consultation

With respect to NLCA 11.2.1 item (d), which stipulates that the planning process will promote public participation through appropriate and realistic schedules, though requested by many community representatives during the Regional PHCs held during the Fall of 2016, the NPC has refused to provide additional time to communities to allow them to properly prepare submissions for the January 13, 2017 deadline. The NPC also refused to offer any financial support to communities that they have suggested would be responsible to hold public consultation events and to solicit input from community members. The NPC noted that in many communities it heard the same concerns that communities have challenges and need support, but where the NPC's budget is limited, it indicated it only had funding to implement work plans that had been approved.<sup>2</sup> NAM assumes that the NPC's budget and work plan which was approved by the federal government did not include the information sessions the NPC indicated in its press release in June 2016 would occur in the Fall. NAM suggests that the NPC's planning and budgeting was shortsighted in that it has not provided any resources to communities to undertake consultations that would enable the collection of community views and opinions for inclusion to written submissions for the Public Hearing.

NAM submits that where the NPC has neglected to undertake its own consultations and further, ignored requests for funding and support put forth by communities and other organizations, the NPC has been ignorant to the very real limitations faced by not only communities in disseminating information about the NLUP and putting together a comment submission, but also the challenges faced by and needs of the

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<sup>1</sup> NPC Press Release, June 23, 2016, available online at:  
<http://nunavut.ca/files/June%202016%20DNLUP%20Press%20Release%20Eng.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> S. Ehaloak, NPC Transcript Rankin Inlet PHC, available online at:  
<http://nunavut.ca/files/Transcript%20of%20Rankin%20Inlet%20Regional%20PHC-October%2024,%202016.pdf>.

representatives in attendance at the PHC whom the NPC has indicated could, or should, undertake this work. It is unfair for the NPC to have asked Hamlet and other organizations to send representatives to its Regional PHCs without having first disclosed its intention with regard to collecting community feedback. To then have denied the requests for additional time and funding put forward by community members once informed of the NPC's expectations is reprehensible. NAM suggests that the NPC has set the terms and timelines for its process with little or no regard to the pressures and limitations on communities – especially given the timing for municipal elections and sitting of new Councils and Mayors per the Hamlets Act (s. 134) which limits municipalities from entering into contracts and obligations on behalf of a Hamlet from election day until the new Council's terms begins (mid-January). Furthermore, NAM suggests that in this manner, the NPC has neglected the requirements of the NLCA that it set realistic schedules to promote public participation. NAM also notes that during the Rankin Inlet PHC, the NPC committed to "write a letter to the Minister expressing the concerns that communities [raised] with the limited capacity and the need to organize themselves."<sup>3</sup> To date, it is NAM's understanding that the NPC has not provided this letter to the Federal of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC), and would note that as such it has failed to live up to the commitment made to communities, and failed to provide the Minister of INAC with a clear picture of the challenges brought to its attention during the PHC, thereby undermining the ability of the Minister to appropriately respond to these requests. NAM feels that the NPC has blatantly disregarded requests for support and failed to act on behalf of communities in providing additional time to complete submissions, as well as refused to request additional funding for community consultation and participation after promising to do so.

Specifically, on November 14, 2016 NAM wrote to the Minister of INAC requesting funding to support the development of submissions by all Nunavut communities (attached, Appendix A). NAM received correspondence in response from INAC officials (not dated, attached as Appendix B) indicating that INAC would not fund municipalities' consultation activities or the preparation of submissions owing to the fact that it funds the NPC to undertake consultations in support of the NLUP development. NAM suggests that the NPC has not undertaken these necessary consultations, and reiterates that the Regional Pre-Hearing Conferences held for 5 individuals from each community and for which the purpose was to discuss process steps and preparations for the Public Hearing **does not** constitute public consultation on the NLUP. Furthermore, NAM is surprised to find from its review of the NPC's consultation record that no participant funding was requested from INAC to support these or any other consultation activities ongoing during the many years this NLUP has been under development, and again, that the NPC has not reached out to the Minister of INAC following its Pre-Hearing Conferences held across Nunavut where it promised to do so, and recognizing that timeline and resources were repeatedly raised during these sessions as hurdles for communities in preparing submissions.

In addition, NAM would highlight that the NPC responded to a request put forth by a community member during the Rankin Inlet PHC for additional time to prepare community submissions stating "the timeline is the timeline [and] it can't be changed."<sup>4</sup> NAM notes that in correspondence dated December 6, 2016, INAC officials confirmed that the NPC's funding for the Public Hearing can be rolled over into the new fiscal year<sup>5</sup>, and as such, NAM suggests that the NPC's position that funding and approved work plans dictate the

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> INAC Letter to NPC, December 6, 2016, available online at: <http://nunavut.ca/files/2016-12-14%20Letter%20from%20INAC%20re%20Signatories%20Workshop.pdf>.

rigid nature of the timeline for submissions is unfounded and that indeed, the NPC is able to set its own timeline, and should it desire to do so, it could extend the deadline for community submissions as requested. As the letter from INAC also suggested that the process be adjusted to allow for development of a close-to-final plan prior to the Hearing<sup>6</sup>, NAM extends its support for this approach, including having the NPC undertake proper consultations with communities to gather meaningful feedback and support for the Plan. Where INAC noted that the consultation process should be transparent to ensure the Plan is legitimate and understood,<sup>7</sup> NAM points out for the information of the NPC and INAC that, owing to a poor consultation effort by the NPC, the current Plan is neither legitimate nor well understood by communities.

## 2.2 Quality of the planning process

NAM notes that the NPC invited Hamlets, HTOs and the Regional Inuit Associations to send attendees to the Regional PHCs in the Fall 2016 and that it suggested those representatives were to return home, consult with their fellow residents and compile a submission to the NPC for January 13, 2017. From discussions with various communities since these meetings, it has become increasingly evident that there is a general sense of confusion about which organization is to lead the development of a submission, and how different perspectives are to be included under any one organization's letterhead and approval. Also, given the timing of NPC's request for submissions, an recognizing that HTOs in many communities and all municipalities hold elections in December, new Councils particularly have been unable in many cases, with the Christmas holiday timing and election events occurring, to prepare and approve comments that might be submitted to the NPC for the January timeline.

Where the NPC requested that Regional PHC attendees work to compile final "community" submissions, NAM is unclear and concerned that such a submission may fall to Hamlets, HTOs and/or Regional Inuit Organizations either severally, or as one unified voice. The NPC invited representatives from each of these organizations to attend the Regional PHC then addressed the groups of representatives in terms of each community generally, and asked for one submission from each. It also noted that each "community" would have limited time to present at the Hearing – as these organizations are likely to have different perspectives on many topics and represent different subsets of the population (i.e. HTO and RIA represent Inuit, whereas Hamlets represent all residents), NAM suggests that NPC's approach and instructions have lacked appropriate direction, and that it has not provided the necessary structure or support to participants that would enable them to prepare submissions. NAM is concerned that the submissions the NPC may receive for the January 13, 2017 deadline will be silent on many important points if the various organizations have not worked together to compile a community submission as the NPC's direction seemed to indicate was expected.

Regarding accessibility in terms of language, the NPC committed in an April 2016 document providing notification of process steps as well as its June 2016 press release announcing the most recent version of the NLUP<sup>8</sup> to provide the draft Plan in Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, and French via its website. No Inuktitut or Inuinnaqtun version of the NLUP has yet been provided, and in fact, neither have any draft versions or

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> NPC Press Release, June 23, 2016, available online at:

<http://nunavut.ca/files/June%202016%20DNLUP%20Press%20Release%20Eng.pdf>.

supporting documentation been prepared in Inuktitut or Inuinnaqtun this has meant that many Nunavummiut are unable to participate in the planning process, especially where the NPC has not conducted in-person community consultations on the last two drafts to have its experts explain the technical information to the general public in terms that can be understood both by its technical staff and, where necessary, conveyed by professional interpreters.

Considering this lack of translation on the NPC's part, NAM would question its request to have submissions provided to it in all four languages, especially for the Hamlets that may be making submissions and are already taxed by the NPC's tight timeline and refusal to accommodate with appropriate consultation, funding and support.

Finally, with regard to the NPC's process steps relating to the Public Hearing,<sup>9</sup> aside from having major issues with the timeline for community submissions, NAM would also note that having questions regarding the NLUP served to the NPC by communities prior to March 7, 2016 is not a practical request, considering attendees from communities will likely have questions arise as information is presented during the Hearing process and especially in response to the presentation delivered by NPC staff. NAM would suggest that this process step be optional, and that it confirm all questions raised during the Hearing will be allowed.

### **2.3 Overall balance among competing interests on important issues**

As the NPC has failed to adequately consult with residents of Nunavut on the two most recent versions of the NLUP and related revisions to the 2012 draft, NAM submits that the NPC has not provided sufficient balance between competing interests on important issues affecting Nunavummiut.

## **3 Specific Comments and Recommendations**

### **3.1 Identification of Watersheds/Drinking Water Sources, Waste/Remediation Sites, and Quarry Sites**

NAM has not had an opportunity to confirm with each Hamlet whether each municipality has accurately identified watersheds/drinking water sources, waste/remediation sites, and quarry sites, nor whether these are currently addressed within the NLUP. As a result, before the NLUP is approved, NAM recommends that the NPC confirm with each Hamlet the identification of any watershed, land remediation sites, waste sites and quarry sites so that these may be incorporated into the plan as required. NAM notes that this may require that the NPC engage in consultation efforts and/or offer assistance to municipalities to identify these sites of interest. Further detail and additional comments regarding each type of site are provided in the following subsections.

#### **3.1.1 Watersheds/Drinking Water Sources**

The draft NLUP suggests (s. 4.4.1.2) that it "can support municipal efforts to manage land use within community drinking water supply watersheds" that are located outside of municipal boundaries. It is unclear to NAM whether or how potential water sources outside of the municipal boundaries have been

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<sup>9</sup> NPC, Timeline for Development of the NLUP, October 2016, available online at: <http://nunavut.ca/files/2016-10-07%20Timeline%20for%20Development%20of%20NLUP.pdf>.

included within the NPC's current considerations and draft of the NLUP, especially where consultations with communities have not been undertaken in the last 4 years. The NLUP (s. 4.4.1.2) also indicates that communities "must identify for the NPC the boundaries of the watershed of their existing and future drinking water supply" within 5 years of the current Plan's approval". NAM is concerned that communities may not be prepared or have the resources to undertake this level of reconnaissance and/or to predict what future water supply needs may be. It is unclear from the NLUP whether

Further, in s. 4.4.1.2, the NLUP "recommends that in implementing the Nunavut Land Use NLUP [sic.], federal or territorial ministers, department agencies, municipalities, Institutions of Public Government, the National Energy Board, federal environmental assessment panels, and other Regulatory Authorities ensure Proponents give reasonable consideration to ensure the protection of communities' drinking water supplies." NAM is of the opinion that it would be within the NPC's authority to ensure land users and regulators such as those named above are aware of NLUP restrictions on land use that may impact municipal water supplies, and that the NPC is also equipped to provide additional recommendations to land users where impacts to these or other resources may be imminent.

### **3.1.2 Waste/Remediation Sites**

With regard to waste and remediation sites located outside of the municipal boundary, NAM requests that the NPC conduct consultation with all municipalities to ensure these have been accurately identified within the current DNLUP.

### **3.1.3 Quarry Sites**

NAM has concerns that the current NLUP does not address potential quarry sites that may be located outside of municipal boundaries and which may be essential to the future development and ongoing maintenance of municipal infrastructure (i.e. roads, lots, etc.). NAM recognizes that certain categories of speculative developments (i.e. transportation corridors) may not be considered for inclusion within the NLUP at this stage, however it would argue that setting aside potential quarry sites that are essential for the development and maintenance of municipal infrastructure should warrant a higher priority and special consideration by the NPC. Should the NLUP be finalized without giving consideration to potential quarry sites needed for municipal infrastructure, some of these areas could be located within zones designated as protected or special management areas where quarry development is prohibited. NAM recommends that the NPC undertake consultation with municipalities to determine where potential quarry sites outside of the municipal boundaries are located, and that it exclude any areas identified from designations that would prevent quarrying activities. It is essential that this consultation and identification process be completed prior to the finalization of the NLUP.

Furthermore, relating to quarrying activities, NAM is concerned with the NLUP definition of "quarries," noting specifically that the definition states: "A quarry is the same thing as an open-pit mine from which minerals are extracted" (Definitions: General, p. 11). NAM would suggest that quarrying can actually be undertaken on a comparatively small scale and as a much less intrusive activity than open-pit mining, and that the reference to open-pit mining may connote impacts that are not likely to occur with quarrying. It is recommended that this line be removed from the definition, or changed to read "a quarry is often developed in a similar manner as open-pit mining operations."

### **3.2 Treatment of Conflicting Perspectives on Land Use**

It is unclear to NAM from the current draft of the NLUP how the NPC plans to address conflicting or opposing views on land uses that may be taken into consideration post NLUP approval. For instance, the Plan amendment application and consideration processes are not clear, nor are plans for the NPC's consideration of minor variance applications, including if and when public consultation or review would be included as a part of these processes, and if so, how those would play out.

#### **3.2.1 Recommendation and Rationale**

NAM recommends that the NPC provide for the information of all participants, details on how Plan amendment applications and the Commission's consideration of these will be handled, including process steps, and the opportunities for public involvement. Further, the process for minor variance applications, the Commission's consideration of these, and public review/consultation opportunities should also be outlined. This information is necessary prior to the Public Hearing, as the treatment of these requests may impact on NAM or the communities' support for the overall NLUP if for instance, information on treatment of conflicting perspectives is lacking and participants are unable to adequately assess the NPC's proposed procedures. Also, the public should be able to comment and request clarification from the NPC as to these important processes – the Hearing provides an opportunity for these to occur on the public record and for the NPC to consider changes to its processes prior to finalizing within the NLUP.

### **3.3 Community Areas of Interest**

NLUP section 4.1.1 Community Areas of Interest (p. 36) and Options and Recommendations section 4.1.1 Community Areas of Interest (p. 63) "The management of areas of particular significance for ecological, cultural, social, archaeological, historic, research, restoration of environment integrity or other similar purposes are a key aspect of building healthier communities. In the absence of legislation, the Commission supports the identification and management of these areas through land use planning."

The NPC's listing of Community Areas of Interest within the 2016 NLUP is shorter than expected with regard to areas of importance to various communities. NAM recognizes the work undertaken by the NPC in developing the 2012 version of the NLUP to undertake intensive mapping sessions with communities, however with no follow up consultations and opportunities for communities to work with the NPC and provide feedback on the areas included, NAM is concerned that important areas may have been unintentionally excluded from the current NLUP.

#### **3.3.1 Recommendation and Rationale**

It is recommended that the NPC follow up with communities to ensure no important areas have been omitted from the last two versions of the NLUP. This input would best be obtained through face-to-face meetings held with community residents.

Should the NPC move forward with a NLUP that has not confirmed important areas with communities, and if it neglects to further consult Nunavummiut to ensure the listings of areas are complete, the NPC risks missing essential areas that should be included within its plan as having special management. As no consultation was undertaken on the most recent two drafts of the NLUP, it is essential that the areas included from prior consultations be confirmed and any additional areas be considered for inclusion within the final NLUP.

### **3.4 Need for General Overarching Rules to Protect Caribou**

Where approved versions of the NPC's Regional Land Use Plans included Caribou Protection Measures to generally guide land uses that may impact caribou, it is important that the current NLUP carry these or something similar forward to provide overarching rules for land users and developers that protect caribou during important seasons and outside of otherwise protected areas.

NAM is of the opinion that where prior versions of regional land use plans included specific restrictions and rules on distances, timing, and permissible activities during particular periods each year, the NLUP should carry these or something similar forward, and could improve upon them with input from responsible authorities such as the Government of Nunavut, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, Regional Inuit Associations and Regional Wildlife Boards.

#### **3.4.1 Recommendation and Rationale**

NAM recommends that the NPC include caribou protection measures that address calving, post-calving, migration and rutting periods, and that these be developed in consultation with communities, the Government of Nunavut, the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, Regional Inuit Associations, Regional Wildlife Boards, relevant Caribou Management Boards and Hunters and Trappers Organizations.

NAM notes that caribou, as an essential resource to all Nunavummiut, require careful and purposeful management. NAM also recognizes the need for industrial development that supports and promotes the economies of our regions and territory, and suggests that a balanced approach to caribou management would include not only protected and special management areas, but also overarching rules that guide land users' behaviour outside of those zones so as to be mindful and help conserve this important resource.

Where the NPC's previously approved regional land use plans included caribou protection measures which included restrictions and rules for land users designed to protect caribou and their habitat and to encourage responsible land use, it seems shortsighted that the NPC would omit the inclusion of some similar measures within the NLUP, especially given recent concerns relating to caribou habitat and the declining status of many herds resident to Nunavut.

## **4 Conclusion**

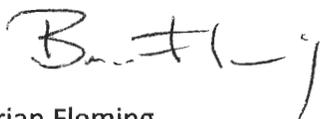
NAM has undertaken a review of the NLUP and provides the foregoing comments for the NPC's consideration as such pertain to all municipalities within Nunavut, and to larger overarching issues that affect municipalities and their constituents.

Without having adequately consulted communities in Nunavut, NAM cannot confirm that the NLUP as it is currently will have the support of municipalities. NAM is of the opinion that the NPC should have undertaken its own consultations on the recent draft of the NLUP with all communities. Failing that, the NPC's unreasonable request to have community volunteers provide information on the NLUP to their fellow residents and prepare submissions for this deadline, combined with the NPC's refusal to assist with funding and an extended timeline to allow for this work to be undertaken, show that the NPC has failed to meet its obligations for consultation, engagement, and providing opportunities for public participation in the planning process.

NAM has specific concerns regarding the NPC's planned treatment of conflicting perspectives on land uses within the NLUP, including Plan amendments and minor variances that it may consider. Furthermore, the limited number of community areas of interest identified in the NLUP is a concern to NAM, as these were included only from consultation on the 2011-2012 draft of the NLUP and do not reflect the last two revised versions. In addition, NAM has suggested that caribou protection measures for land users similar to those found within the NPC's two approved regional land use plans be included within the NLUP as an overarching method to balance land uses with the protection of caribou during sensitive times, regardless of their location within areas of protected or special management land use designations.

The current NLUP represents the immense effort put forward by not only the NPC, but all organizations contributing to the process over the last number of years, and NAM is encouraged by the participation and interest in this important process. However, there are areas related to the NLUP and to its ongoing planning process that it seems the NPC has been unwilling or unable to address, and are of concern to NAM. It is expected that the Hearing will foster discussion of the enclosed comments as well as other questions and inquiries that NAM and Nunavut's municipalities may have. We look forward to meeting with the NPC and all parties to the planning process in March.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Fleming". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brian Fleming  
Executive Director  
Nunavut Association of Municipalities

## **Appendix A**

**NAM CORRESPONDENCE TO INAC REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MUNICIPALITIES' SUBMISSIONS TO NPC**



NAM plans to hire consultants for each community. Once the communities have identified their concerns and issues, the consultant will summarize the information in a brief for the final hearings.

- Community Meetings (1000.00 each) x 25 25,000.00

NAM proposes to distribute 1,000.00 to each community to provide sundries (coffee, tea, cookies, flip chart paper etc.) for their community meetings.

- Translation of Briefs (3 per community) x 25 80,000.00

The community briefs are required in French, Inuinnaqtun and Inuktitut. Assuming each brief is 250 words per page at 10 pages (2,500 words per brief) each then we estimate a total of 80,000 in translation fees.

- NAM Consultant 10,000.00

NAM plans to hire a consultant to prepare a brief, on behalf of all the communities, to high light and summarize the main issues.

- Expenses 5,000.00

Since no travel is budgeted, the consultants and NAM propose to conduct their business by phone, fax and email.

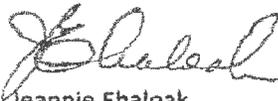
- GST After Rebate (2.5%) 5,000.00

As NAM is a not for profit organization we only receive 2.5% of the GST back as a rebate. Hence, the other 2.5% is an expense.

Total 200,000.00

Thanks in advance for your attention on this important matter. NAM hopes you will look favorably on our proposal, for our communities to participate in an effective and meaningful input into the DNLUP. We would appreciate a reply as soon as possible due to the short time frame at hand.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please don't hesitate our Executive Director, Brian Fleming. In addition to email, he can be reached at our office 867 975 3327, or by cell at 867 222 4806



Jeannie Ehloak  
NAM President

Cc Hunter Tootoo

## **Appendix B**

**INAC RESPONSE TO NAM REQUEST FOR SUPPORT RE MUNICIPALITIES' SUBMISSIONS**



Affaires autochtones et  
Développement du Nord Canada

Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0H4

Ms. Jeannie Ehaloak  
President  
Nunavut Association of Municipalities  
PO Box 4003  
IQALUIT NU X0A 1H0

[edofnam@northwestel.net](mailto:edofnam@northwestel.net)

Dear Ms. Ehaloak:

Thank you for your letter of November 14, 2016, requesting funding to support community consultations with respect to the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

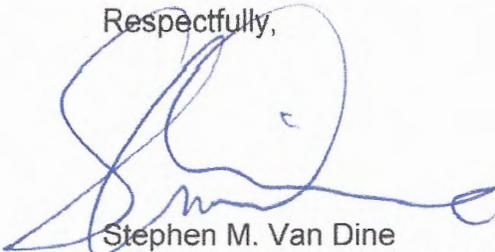
I am pleased to hear that the municipalities in Nunavut have been engaged in the regional community consultations the Nunavut Planning Commission has recently completed. The involvement of community representatives in the planning process will serve to strengthen the content of the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The Commission has outlined the next stages in this process, including written submissions that are due January 13, 2017, and a public hearing at the end of March, 2017. At this time, Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada cannot offer your organization financial support to undertake community consultations and prepare a submission. The Government of Canada provides funding to the Nunavut Planning Commission to carry out the planning process, including support for the engagement of communities. I encourage each of your member communities to continue to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the Commission to share their views regarding the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan.

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If you would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact the Nunavut Regional Director General, David Rochette, at (867) 975-4501 or [David.Rochette@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca](mailto:David.Rochette@aandc-aadnc.gc.ca).

Respectfully,



Stephen M. Van Dine  
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: Hon. Hunter Tootoo, M.P.  
Ms. Sharon Ehaloak, Executive Director, Nunavut Planning  
Commission