



Affaires autochtones et  
Développement du Nord Canada

Aboriginal Affairs and  
Northern Development Canada

Sous-ministre adjoint

Assistant Deputy Minister

Ottawa, Canada  
K1A 0H4

**JUN 15 2017**

Mr. Andrew Nakashuk  
Chair  
Nunavut Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 1797  
IQALUIT NU X0A 0H0

[anakashuk@nunavut.ca](mailto:anakashuk@nunavut.ca)

Dear Mr. Nakashuk:

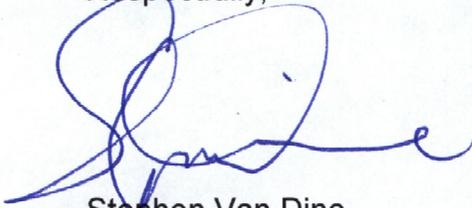
Thank you for your letter of May 30, 2017, regarding the challenges and opportunities going forward with the Land Use Planning process in Nunavut. I am responding on behalf of the Minister.

The Government of Canada remains committed to actively participating in the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan. I am encouraged by your invitation to pursue joint discussions to address and resolve outstanding concerns in an effort to align parties on the planning process going forward. The Government of Canada has previously identified and expressed concerns on a number of issues that will require resolution and discussing with the parties would be beneficial. As such, I can confirm the Government of Canada is open to participating in a structured and purpose-driven meeting with the parties. We will need to develop the objectives collectively and develop a detailed agenda that would best serve achieving those objectives.

Some of the points raised in your letter will require flexibility and further consideration before the meeting occurs. First, each organization will have limitations on their ability to make binding decisions on the spot. Therefore, collaborative advance work on issues is required, to ensure the efficient use of the time available for face-to-face discussions. I would suggest we set aside a single day for meeting to make decisions where agreement exists and set up a forward process to resolve outstanding issues. Second, while I recognize the benefits of smaller group discussions; participation should not focus on numbers but rather having the appropriate people attend.

I would be interested to discuss further with all the parties involved, please make arrangements through David Rochette, Regional Director General, at 867-975-4501 or [David.Rochette@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca](mailto:David.Rochette@aadnc-aandc.gc.ca).

Respectfully,



Stephen Van Dine  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Northern Affairs Organization

c.c.: James T. Arreak  
David Akeeagok