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Your file - Votre référence

Our file - Notre référence

December 1, 2009

Sharon Ehaloak
Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101
Cambridge Bay, Nunavut
X0B 0C0

Re: Nunavut Land Use Plan

Dear Sharon:

It was a pleasure to visit with you in Cambridge Bay earlier this month and to discuss the important work of the Nunavut Planning Commission in leading collaborative efforts to complete a Nunavut land use plan.

As I mentioned when we met, a group of federal officials gathered in Iqaluit on October 15 and 16, 2009 to discuss the Planning Commission's process for the development of a territory-wide land use plan by February 2011. I would like to thank you and the staff of the Planning Commission for providing a presentation on this process during the first ours of the meeting.

The Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik have recently corresponded with you endorsing a consensus-based approach for moving forward on land use planning that would involve the Government of Nunavut, the Government of Canada, the Inuit of Nunavut as represented by Nunavut Tunngavik, and the Planning Commission. Two years ago, this kind of approach brought us all success in establishing broad guidelines for land use planning in the territory. I am sure that the same focus on collaboration will bring similar success in the development of a territory-wide land use plan.

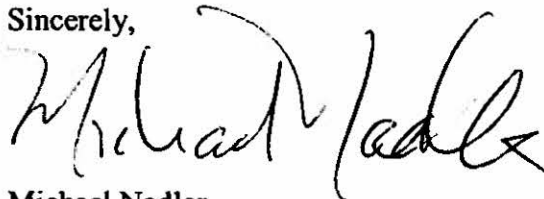
Staff from my office have been corresponding with staff of the Planning Commission for some weeks and recently relayed some considerations raised by federal departments during our meeting of October 15 and 16, 2009. Federal departments support land use planning in Nunavut and value the enthusiasm of the Planning Commission. Completing a territory-wide plan by February 2011 may be an ambitious objective. In order to better understand how to achieve this goal, federal departments posed some questions regarding the technical panel process, the stages of land use planning, and the model planned for inviting or engaging participants in the process.

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Officials at Indian and Northern Affairs Canada look forward to participating in the land use planning process in Nunavut. Other key federal departments are equally encouraged by the steps being taken by the Planning Commission and are anxious to make contributions to a territory-wide plan. As you and I have discussed, it is our hope that, as the process unfolds, all parties will be flexible and will be willing to adapt to accommodate the needs of key participants, such as departments of the Government of Canada. To this end, some of my colleagues and I would welcome an opportunity to discuss the process with you and your staff to explore how we might best work together to achieve the Planning Commission's important goals.

Thank you again for meeting with me in Cambridge Bay and for contributing the time and energy of Commission staff to the meetings held in Iqaluit on October 15 and 16.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Nadler", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Nadler
Regional Director General
P.O. Box 2200
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

c.c.:

Simon Awa, Deputy Minister, Department of Environment, Government of Nunavut
Joe Kunuk, Chief Executive Officer, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
Government of Canada departmental representatives (list enclosed)

Government of Canada Departmental Representatives

Nancy Anilniliak, Field Superintendent, Nunavut Field Unit, Parks Canada

Christopher Cornish, Director, Policy, Planning and Evaluation, Health Canada

Randal Cripps, Regional Director General, Prairie and Northern Region, Environment Canada

David Harper, Director, Horizontal Policy and Science Division, Natural Resources Canada

Karen Hurst, A/Regional Director, Policy, Central and Arctic Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans

Peter Linkletter, Director General, Realty Policy and Plans, Department of National Defense

Harvey Nikkel, Regional Director, Programs, Prairie and Northern Region, Transport Canada