



Sharon Ehaloak
Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission
Box 1797, Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

November 26, 2018

Dear Ms. Ehaloak,

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please find attached our response to the reopening of the public record on the 2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP) by the Nunavut Planning Commission (“the Commission”) on July 16, 2018. This submission is intended to address those questions provided by the Commission that were directed to the Government of Canada and to which the Government of Canada has determined it can provide additional information. This joint federal submission consolidates the views of Crown-Indigenous Relations Canada, Transport Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Parks Canada, the Department of National Defence, Natural Resources Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Canadian Coast Guard, Global Affairs Canada and the Department of Justice.

The Government of Canada acknowledges the continued efforts of the Commission and appreciates the opportunity to provide further clarity on our previous written submission made in January 2017 and our presentation at the Qikiqtani regional public hearing in March 2017.

The Government of Canada would like to highlight the challenge we encountered in responding to this request. Without having the full context in which questions were asked, responses may not fully address the requests; responses reflect our best understanding of the questions. We welcome further dialogue with the Commission to better respond and provide the information required by the Commission for this exercise.

The Government of Canada also notes that when reopening the public record on the 2016 DNLUP, the Commission has not indicated how the information provided through these submissions will help inform the development of the land use plan. The Government of Canada encourages the Commission to provide the next steps in the planning process and any future opportunities for participation and input, such as through oral submissions.

The Government of Canada continues to suggest that the Commission conduct further community consultations on the 2016 DNLUP, revise the plan and then conduct public hearings on the new iteration prior to submitting for approval. The Government of Canada is still concerned that the draft plan has substantive unresolved issues and recommends that the Commission facilitate in-depth, place-based discussions among planning parties and Nunavummiut. One particular issue that we would like to highlight relates to balancing protection for caribou with opportunities for mineral exploration and development as both are critically important to Inuit and northerners. Details are presented in the attached submission.

In addition, as part of the next steps, the Government of Canada would request that the Commission provide responses to the questions posed by the participants to the Commission during the consultation on the 2016 DNLUP.

The Government of Canada is committed to continued collaboration with the planning parties and Nunavummiut to develop an approved land use plan for Nunavut. If there are any questions regarding this submission, please feel free to contact Spencer Dewar, Director, Resources Management Directorate, by email at Spencer.Dewar@Canada.ca, or by phone at 867-975-4546.

Sincerely,



David Rochette
Regional Director General -Nunavut Region

Attachments:

- Government of Canada Responses to NPC Questions
- Annex A: Annotated bibliography of barren-ground caribou response to disturbance: Preliminary assessment to support initial scoping exercise
- Annex B: Assessing caribou vulnerability to oil and gas exploration and development in Eagle Plains, Yukon
- Annex C: The Remediation of Nottingham Island: Post Project Community Meetings Presentation
- Annex D: Nunavut Contaminated Sites Map

