



May 8, 2013

Honourable Leona Aglukkaq  
Member of Parliament, Nunavut  
Confederation Building  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

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*Delivered Via Electronic Mail*

Dear Minister Aglukkaq,

As a follow up to our May 8 telephone conversation I would like to respond formally to the concerns you shared regarding the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada's expectations of the Nunavut Planning Commission and its Chairperson.

The three points you requested assurances on are that:

1. the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan will be submitted for approval within 24 months;
2. once NUPPAA is enacted the Commission will be prepared to implement the Bill, and
3. the Board members direct the Commission.

I will briefly address each of the three points below:

First, the Commission recently made public its final steps on the development of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. This document sets out the steps that the Commission is taking to ensure submission of the draft plan for approval by March of 2015.

Second, the Commission has been involved in the development of the Draft Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act for at least 10 years. We are eager to implement the Legislation once enacted. Steps have been taken to develop procedures and internal directives to ensure the seamless transition into the new regime. As I indicated resources are required to address the new legal obligations arising from the legislation. This information was provided to the Government of Canada in a Business Case in 2010.

The Commission has in place Board Governance Policies and Executive Director Constraint Policies which together guide the Board functions and the day to day operations of the Commission. These Policies

also outline clearly the results the Executive Director is to achieve and the parameters of such. This ensures the Board governs and staff implements the Boards direction. The Commission is the only Institute of Public Government that has these types of policies in place and as such operates under a pure governance structure as recommended by the Auditor General of Canada.

In closing I would be pleased to discuss the steps that the Commission has in place to further assure the Minister that the expectations are easily attainable by the Commission.

I would like to thank you for your interest in the success of the Nunavut Planning Commission and the timely completion and approval of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan. The implementation of the Nunavut Land Claims is paramount and the Nunavut Land Use Plan as we both know is critical to guide and direct the resource development in Nunavut. If I may be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Quassa', written in a cursive style.

Paul Quassa, Chairperson

CC: Honourable Bernard Valcourt, Minister  
Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada  
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Nunavut Planning Commission Commissioners