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Building Nunavut Together
Nunavut iuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

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Department of Environment
Avatiliqiyikkut
Ministère de l'Environnement

January 25, 2019

Sharon Ehloak
Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 1797
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Dear Ms. Ehloak,

The Government of Nunavut (GN) would like to thank the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) for granting participants the opportunity to respond to the written submissions submitted in November 2018 on the 2016 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). The GN respects the planning process and the NPC's role in making decisions based on the best available information and data from all participants. Further, the GN appreciates the submission of valuable Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit data from the Qikiqtani Wildlife Board and hunters and trappers organizations and recommends more technical discussions.

The priorities identified in the GN's January 2017 submission remain the GN's position on the 2016 DNLUP and as such we have chosen not to respond to other submissions. To reiterate the GN's preferred process forward, the GN recommends that the NPC conduct more technical workshops and community consultations to engage all interested parties to resolve some of the difficult issues raised during the Qikiqtani Hearing on the 2016 DNLUP. The consultations should inform a redrafted plan which would then be subject to new public hearings in all three regions. Regardless of the path chosen by the NPC, clarification on the planning process is important to align participant expectations and advance towards the goal of an approvable Nunavut Land Use Plan.

The GN is optimistic that the planning process will move forward as per the NPC's press release on December 6, 2018. The GN looks forward to a revised work plan and is dedicated to providing its support towards the process.

Sincerely,

Steve Pinksen
A/Deputy Minister