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June 19, 2015

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

Dear Ms. Ehaloak;

RE: Government of Nunavut Submission on the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Nunavut Planning Commission's (NPC, the Commission) 2014 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan (DNLUP). On behalf of the Government of Nunavut (GN), I am pleased to present the NPC with the following written submission, *The Government of Nunavut's 2014 Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan Review Report*. This *Review Report* is intended to support our participation in the June 23- 26, 2015 Technical Meeting in Iqaluit.

The GN has been an active participant to the review process for the DNLUP, participating in the NPC's community consultation processes and various workshops, contributing to the 2012 Third Party Independent Review of the DNLUP, as well as the GN's own internal departmental review of several iterations of the DNLUP.

Most recently, the GN undertook a review of the revised DNLUP that was released in June 2014. Several key deficiencies in areas of the Plan have been identified as they relate to the goals and priorities of "Sivumut Abluqta: Stepping Forward Together" and are further discussed in the attached Review Report. It is our hope to work together with the NPC and other stakeholders during the Technical Meeting to address these important issues.

A Technical Meeting is a critical step toward the development of the DNLUP. Much information and insight will be gained from the formal submissions made by the Planning Partners and stakeholders and as a result of roundtable discussions with technical experts. The GN therefore requests that following the Technical Meeting, the Commission provide all parties with a record of the meeting, and identify how they will address the recommendations made by various parties, and any commitments made as a result of the discussions.

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The GN remains committed to the processes outlined in the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* (NLCA) for land use planning, and continues to support the efforts of the NPC in this task. As stated in correspondence made to the Commission in the past, we have concerns with the proposed process for changes to the DNLUP following the results of the Technical Meeting.

As contemplated in Article 11 of the NLCA, a Public Hearing provides a venue for the active and informed participation of those affected by a land use plan in the public planning process. Therefore we again recommend that the Commission present an amended version of the Plan prior to the Public Hearing that responds to the recommendations of the stakeholders. I believe this is an essential step in supporting the active and meaningful engagement of Nunavummiut in this very important stage of the planning process.

We look forward to productive discussions at the upcoming meeting of technical experts in Iqaluit.

Sincerely,

Gabriel Nirlungayuk,
Deputy Minister

C Sustainable Development Committee