



October 6, 2009

Via Electronic Mail

Mr. Terry Audla
Executive Director
Qikiqtani Inuit Association

execdir@qia.ca

Dear Terry,

Re: Nunavut Land Use Plan

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) adopted the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) 11.4.1(a) broad planning policies, objectives and goals, in November 2007. Since that time, in accordance with 11.4.1(a), the NPC has been developing a Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP), as required under NLCA 11.5.1.

The NLUP will replace the existing North Baffin and Keewatin Regional Land Use Plans originally developed in the late 80's and early 90's, respectively. A current land use plan for the entire settlement area, built on 11.4.1(a) will benefit Inuit and all northerners.

The NPC has been active in promoting the participation of Inuit, residents, and other partners in the planning process through various means. The QIA has been engaged in the recent development of the NLUP in the following ways:

- August 2007 - a letter was sent to the QIA requesting input on issues, vision and goals to guide land use planning in Nunavut.
- April 2009 – the NPC broadly distributed and made available publically our comprehensive baseline data in hardcopy and digital formats. At this time, all QIA board members received a questionnaire asking if they felt there were

areas around their communities they felt should receive special management under the NLUP.

- May 2009 – the NPC participated in teleconference with QIA staff to discuss the information package distributed in April, the development of the NLUP, and the involvement of the QIA.
- May 2009 - the NPC distributed our Cumulative Effects Referral Criteria Report and provided an update on the status of the NLUP Administration section.
- June 2009 – the NPC contacted the NLUP working group with specific questions and requests for information as a follow up to issues and priorities feedback.

The Commission continues to encourage the participation of the Regional Inuit Associations in the land use planning process. Over the past several months, the NPC has been soliciting guidance from government, NTI and RIA land managers on issues and priorities to be considered as part of the planning process. As this exercise will conclude at the end of October, we would be interested in learning if the QIA has additional data or information that would enhance our baseline knowledge. As well, if QIA has established region specific goals and objectives for Inuit Owned Lands that are not captured by 11.4.1(a), this information would also be useful.

NPC's collation of this information will be reviewed with technical panels in mid-January 2010. The panels will be reviewing maps showing areas of economic potential and areas of high conservation value in relation to Inuit land use and harvesting patterns. We are looking forward to the QIA's participation in those panels. The panels will be followed by three regional public hearings in the spring and public release of the Nunavut Land Use Plan in September 2010.

Please forward any additional information to Jonathan Savoy, Policy Analyst at jsavoy@nunauvt.ca or to our Cambridge Bay office mailing address by October 30, 2009.

The Commission appreciates the support of the QIA during the development of the NLUP and we look forward to updating your Board of Directors in October 2009.

Respectfully,



Sharon Ehloak, Executive Director
Nunavut Planning Commission

Cc: John Amagoalik, Director of Lands and Resources