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Minister of Environment
Minista Avatiliritjutinut
Ministre de l'Environnement

Ron Roach, Chairperson
Nunavut Planning Commission
P.O. Box 2101, Cambridge Bay
NU X0B 0C0

MAY 2 0 2011

Dear Mr. Roach:

Re: Working Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan ("WDNLUP")

This letter is in response to your letter of April 21, 2011 to Premier Eva Aariak in which you requested a meeting with the Ministers responsible for the Sustainable Development Committee ("SDC").

I am in the process of preparing a more comprehensive response to the concerns raised in your letter which I will forward to you shortly. In the meantime, arrangements have been made for us to meet in person on May 25th, and I look forward to the opportunity to have a frank discussion with you on and how best to move forward with the land use planning process.

In order to develop an effective Land Use Plan for Nunavut, we must all be prepared to work together as partners. The partnership mandated by the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) requires a shared understanding of our mutual roles and responsibilities. It is critical that we communicate effectively with one another regarding our concerns over process and outcome.

The Government of Nunavut (GN) is aware that compromise will be necessary in order to make this partnership function. But let me be clear; compromise must run both ways. It may be necessary for both the GN and the Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) to reconcile differing approaches to the process of information sharing, and the NPC must demonstrate some willingness to acknowledge the concerns faced by the GN.

In the spirit of Aajirqatigiinniq (working together) and Piliriqatigiinniq (working together for a common cause) I look forward to our meeting. I firmly believe that we can get beyond our current impasse and move towards the completion of a final NLUP that will provide a clear road-map for sustainable development in Nunavut.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk
Minister of Environment

Cc: Executive Council

Box 2410, Iqaluit, NU
X0A 0H0, Canada

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