



Hall Beach Eskimo Co-operative Association Limited, General Delivery, Sanirajak, NU X0A 0K0
Igloolik Co-operative Limited, Box 120, Igloolik, NU X0A 0L0
Taqut Co-operative Limited, Box 29, Arctic Bay, NU X0A 0A0
Tununiq Sauniq Co-operative Limited, Box 370, Pond Inlet, NU X0A 0S0

January 21, 2021

Nunavut Impact Review Board
P.O. Box 1360
Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Delivered via email

NIRB File: 08MN053

Dear Madame Chair,

As Co-op Directors from Taqut Co-op, Hall Beach (Sanirajak) Co-op, Tununiq-Sauniq Co-op and Igloolik Co-op, we understand and appreciate the weighty responsibilities of making important decisions that impact people who may have a lot in common, but don't always share the same views on important matters. It is the Nunavut Impact Review Board's (NIRB) responsibility to weigh all the impacts and provide recommendations to guide responsible project development of the Baffinland Iron Mines Mary River Project and, specifically, the proposed Phase 2 expansion which would have a variety of impacts on our communities and our environment. The purpose of this letter is simply to outline the impacts that our Co-ops have seen as a result of the Mary River Project so that you may consider them as you weigh all of the reports and opinions that you will receive.

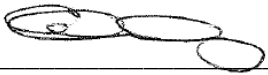
The Baffinland project has already shown to be an excellent opportunity for our Co-ops, and our communities, to prosper through contracting. As major contractors, Co-ops have a shared responsibility to work with Baffinland as an active participant in the delivery of benefits through the Cooperative Business Model to improve everyday life in the communities. Each Co-op and community has its own priorities with respect to delivering patronage rebates to Members, lowering prices, investing in community infrastructure, grants & donations, training & development, etc. In 2020, our Co-ops returned \$2,600,000 in patronage dividends to individual Members in the communities. It is our expectation that Phase 2 would bring additional economic opportunities to cooperatives that would be transformational with respect to the Co-op's ability to deliver benefits to individual Members. Our connection to the land and the environment also means that the Co-op System will work collaboratively in compliance with management and monitoring programs in both the marine and terrestrial environments.

Our Members and their families in the communities have long suffered from a lack of employment, training and business opportunities, contributing to economic and social inequities. In addition to the positive impacts of contracting activity to support responsible development, there are enormous opportunities for employment available to Nunavummiut either directly with Baffinland or as a result of the spin-off benefits from the project. Research commissioned by the Nutrition North Canada program highlights an inverse relationship between household income and reported household food insecurity. "Nationally, almost half of households with no more than \$10,000 annual income are food insecure, with that incidence dropping to about 10% among households with incomes between \$30,001 and \$40,000." (Phillips & Associates, 2017) and "...the fact that food prices are indeed higher in

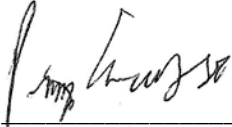
the North erodes the buying power of a given household income, exacerbating the effects of poverty.” (Phillips & Associates, 2017). Anecdotally, Member Co-ops note increases in disposable income in the community when seasonal or temporary construction projects are employing community residents. Because of the estimated life-of-mine for this project, the employment opportunities can be transformational and multi-generational for the communities of our region, and significant Territorially.

The Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) is the legitimate representatives of the Inuit people of our Region. We have confidence that they have negotiated a fair and reasonable Inuit Impact Benefits Agreement (IIBA) and subsequent Inuit Certainty Agreement (ICA). Please consider the impacts on community Co-ops as outlined above as you work towards your final decisions on this project application.

Co-operatively yours,



Anne Curley
President
Hall Beach Eskimo Co-operative
Association Limited



Piuyuq Enoogoo
President
Taqqu Co-operative Limited



Susan Qamaniq
President
Igloodik Co-operative Limited



Rebecca Qulitalik
President
Tununiq Sauniq Co-operative Limited

About us

Hall Beach Co-op (Sanirajak): Hall Beach Co-op was incorporated in 1973 and currently has a total of 507 individuals/families as Co-op Members with a Board of Directors consisting of 7 local Directors. The Co-op employs 21 people in the community providing Retail, Hotel, Fuel, Cable, C-store, Art Marketing and other services. Since 2009, the Hall Beach Co-op has returned \$2.2 million dollars to the Members in Co-op Patronage Dividends.

Igloolik Co-op (Igloolik): Igloolik Co-op was incorporated in 1963, today the Co-op has a total of 737 individuals/families as Co-op Members and a Board of Directors that holds 9 seats. The Co-op employs 42 people in the community providing Retail, Hotel, Fuel, Cable, C-store, Art Marketing and other services. Since 2009, the Igloolik Co-op has returned \$4.4 million dollars to the Members in Co-op Patronage Dividends.

Taqqut Co-op (Arctic Bay): Taqqut Co-op was incorporated in 1990 and is proudly celebrating their 30th Anniversary this year. With a total of 472 individuals/families as Co-op Members there are also 9 local Members that serve as the Board of Directors. The Co-op employs 12 individuals in the community providing Retail, Fuel, Cable, Art Marketing and other services. Since 2009, the Taqqut Co-op has returned \$4.8 million dollars to the Members in Co-op Patronage Dividends.

Tununiq-Sauniq Co-op (Pond Inlet): Tununiq Sauniq Co-op was incorporated in 1968 and now has a total of 698 individuals/families as Co-op Members. The Board of Directors consisting of 9 local Members. The Co-op employs 51 people in the community providing Retail, Hotel, Fuel, Cable, Art Marketing, C-store and other services. Since 2009, Tununiq Sauniq Co-op has returned \$5.4 million dollars to the Members in Co-op Patronage Dividends.