

ርስድ ወደብ ልዩነት ለሚገኝ (MEWG & TEWG) ክፍል - ለ 29, 2026

ክፍል ቁጥር: MT-0529026

ክፍል / ቦታ: ርስድ ወደብ ልዩነት ለሚገኝ ልዩነት ወደብ ልዩነት, ርስድ

ክፍል ወደብ: ወደብ ልዩነት ክፍል

ክፍል ወደብ: ክፍል ርስድ

ቦታ	ርስድ
ፍብርር (MHTO)	ክፍል ርስድ
ክፍል ርስድ (HBHTA)	ርስድ ወደብ (LU)
ርስድ ርስድ (IHTA)	ክፍል ርስድ (QO)
ርስድ ርስድ (IHTA)	ፍብርር (SQ)
ክፍል ርስድ (NHTO)	ክፍል ርስድ
ርስድ ርስድ	ክፍል ርስድ
ርስድ ርስድ	ርስድ ወደብ (CO); ርስድ ወደብ (MLH) ርስድ ወደብ (LK) ርስድ ወደብ (GN) - ርስድ
ርስድ ርስድ (GN)	ርስድ ወደብ (JW); ርስድ ርስድ (AY) (ርስድ ወደብ ርስድ ወደብ ርስድ ወደብ)
ርስድ ርስድ (QIA)	ርስድ ርስድ (AK) ርስድ ርስድ (AJ) ርስድ ርስድ (JH)
ርስድ ርስድ	ርስድ ርስድ (CF)
ርስድ ርስድ (ECCC)	ርስድ ርስድ (EW) ርስድ ርስድ (AG)
ርስድ ርስድ (DF)	ርስድ ርስድ (JAL); ርስድ ርስድ (PH)
ርስድ ርስድ (PC)	ርስድ ርስድ (VM) ርስድ ርስድ (MC)
ርስድ ወደብ ርስድ	
ርስድ ርስድ (CIRNAC)	ክፍል ርስድ
ርስድ ርስድ (ON)	ርስድ ርስድ (AO)
ርስድ ርስድ (TC)	ርስድ ርስድ (AD) ርስድ ርስድ (JJ)
ርስድ ርስድ (WWF)	ርስድ ርስድ (DH) ርስድ ርስድ (SD)
ርስድ ርስድ (NIRB)	ርስድ ርስድ (KM)
ርስድ ርስድ (NRCAN)	ርስድ ርስድ (CF)

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

[illegible]

ክልሉ የገደብ ልማት (ከፍተኛ) ደረጃ ለማሳደግ የሚገባውን የፍጥነት ልማት ማረጋገጥና የፍጥነት ልማት ማረጋገጥ ይቻላል።

[illegible][illegible]

ገዢ ክፍሉ (አጋር) የሚሰጠው ርዕሰ ስራ ሲሆን፣ የገንዘብ ምንጭ ለመገኘቱ የሚያስፈልጉ ርዕሰ ስራዎችን ለማግኘት ይረዳል።

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

ፊደሉ ጋላፕ-ዘጋጠፈ (ከፍተኛ) የወጣቱን ስራ ለጥቅም ለማድረግ ለፍጥነት ምክንያት ከፍተኛ የጥራት ምርመራ በፍጥነት ማድረግ አለበት፡፡

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

ክፍሉ ሲሰራ (ፈቃደኛ) ደብዳቤዎች ለደረሰው ደብዳቤዎች ላይ ለመገልጸት
(ረዕሰ) ለዚህ ጋራ ምርመራ ምርመራ ምርመራ ምርመራ ምርመራ.

bṅlσ^bɔ^c 2:46 ▷^a ḡ^bly^bd^c.

Marine and Terrestrial Environmental Working Group (MEWG & TEWG) Meeting – May 29, 2026

Meeting ID: MT-0529026
Group / Organization: MEWG TEWG Members and Observers, Baffinland
Meeting Location: Conference Call
Meeting Chair: Qajaq Robinson

Organization	Name
Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization (MHTO)	Absent
Sanirajak Hunters and Trapper Association (HBHTA)	Laimiki Ulluapak (LU)
Arctic Bay (Ikajutit) Hunters and Trappers Association (IHTA)	Quamayuk Oyukuluk (QO)
Igloodik Hunters and Trapper Association (IHTA)	Seemee Qamaniq (SQ)
Clyde River (Nangmoutaq) Hunters and Trappers Organization (NHTO)	Absent
Independent Chair	Qajaq Robinson (QR)
Baffinland Iron Mine	Cortney Oliver (CO); Megan Loyd-Hoyle (MLH); Lou Kamermans (LK); Geela Naqica (GN) - Interpreter
Government of Nunavut (GN)	Jessica Waldinger JW); Amber Yu (AY) - Summer Student
Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA)	Assol Kubeisnova (AK); Andrew Jaworenko (AJ); Jeff Higdon (JH)
Makivvik Corporation	Camille Frechette (CF)
Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Eva Walker (EW); Anna Graham (AG)
Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO)	José Audet-Lecouffe (JAL); Paul Harper (PH)
Parks Canada (PC)	Vincent Marmillot (VM); Marie Claude Martel (MCM)
Observers Organization	

CIRNAC	Absent
Oceans North (ON)	Alex Ootoowak (AO)
Transport Canada (TC)	Adam Downing (AD); JD Jahaar (JJ)
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	Devin Holterman (DH); Sam Davin (SD)
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)	Keith Morrison (KM)
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	Clarisse Fiset (CF)
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CANNOR)	Absent

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Action ID	Responsibility	Item Description	Due Date	Status
MT-0529026-1	Qajaq Robinson (Chair)	To call various organizations individually to verify and confirm who their representatives will be for the working group.	N/A	In progress
MT-0529026-2	BIM	To prepare and present a summary of the proposed changes to monitoring programs in advance of the next meeting to allow parties sufficient time to review and provide comments.	May 22 – May 23	In progress

MEETING MINUTES

1. Introduction and Roll call

The meeting began with a roll call and introductions from various organizations including QIA, ECCC, Parks Canada, DFO, Transport Canada, NRCan, Government of Nunavut, Makivvik, NIRB, Oceans North, WWF, and Baffinland with participants identifying their roles and affiliations.

2. Introduction of Independent Chair

Cortney Oliver (BIM) announced the appointment of Qajaq Robinson as the new independent chair of the Working Groups. She stated that this makes a significant milestone for the Group. In her words, ‘we have come together over the years, preparing the Terms of Reference, discussing the independent chair and going through a selection process and today, I am happy to say that I am passing the baton over to Qajaq Robinson as chair’.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) expressed gratitude for the confidence placed in her and shared her enthusiasm and slight nervousness about beginning her role and looks forward to working with everyone. She acknowledged the support of Baffinland for organizing the meeting and helping to onboard for the role.

3. Meeting Schedule Discussion

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) started the discussion about the meeting schedule by saying that it was her understanding that the meetings for the year would be virtual. She said that she had some initial discussion with Cortney Oliver (BIM) on timings. She called on Cortney to share with the Group on when the next couple of meetings would be most ideally held based on the availability of various reports.

Cortney Oliver (BIM), in response said that the ideal time would be after Baffinland submits the 2025 annual report, and before the field season really gets underway. This leaves the window of late June, early July, as the ideal time for the next meeting, to ensure folks have had time to review the report, and the fall meeting would follow the shipping season. She further stated that as per the Terms of Reference, there is provision for Ad hoc meetings as well, if those are needed, but as far as the regular scheduled meetings her recommendation would be late June, early July and Fall meeting after the shipping season.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) requested the Group's preference for scheduling dates, suggesting that it be best to decide while everyone is on this call to reduce back and forth via email.

Laimiki Ulluapak (Sanirajak) welcomed Qajaq as the independent chair. He noted that Cortney's suggestion for the first week of July would work for him.

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (Arctic Bay) in his response, welcomed Qajaq who was selected as the independent chair and thanked everyone who selected her. He said that for those who live in Arctic Bay and know Qajaq and the previous support she provided the HTA. He is confident that as time goes, she would get familiar with her position. He stated that she is also a very hard-working person, so it is good to have her and would like to again thank the selection committee that selected her. Regarding the schedule for the upcoming meetings, most people are out of the community in June, and it will be hard to get the quorum for that time. He confirmed the timeline suggested by Cortney as probably the best time.

Assol Kubeisinova (QIA) presented QIA's feedback on the schedule of meetings. While she is not the QIA representative that usually attends the MEWG, if the first week of July works for other participants, QIA could make it work as well. She made the following recommendations/comments:

- While this year's meeting could be virtual, it is QIA's preference for in-person meetings for Summer and Fall 2027.
- QIA recommends that MEWG and TEWG meetings occur, one after the other.
- A general recommendation is that online meetings be held in February or March, an in-person meeting in June, and an in-person meeting in November, rather than December.
- Having meeting notifications going out in advance, in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) thanked her and sought for clarification on QIA's preference for November rather than December meetings and asked her to share their rationale for this position.

Assol Kubeisinova (QIA) responded that in the past, the December meetings have had conflicts with QIA's organizational schedule and that of QIA's technical experts. So, it was hard to logistically get everyone together. And over the years, QIA has seen that November is the preferable time for meetings. She further stated that in terms of in person meetings, that there is a lot of value in, in-person communication as it can be much more efficient.

Jesica Waldinger (GN) stated that the first week of July, Monday or Tuesday should work for the Government of Nunavut. And for specific time and date, it might make sense to use a doodle pool. She said that the meeting timing, for instance today's meeting breaks by 12:30pm, it might be difficult for some persons with childcare responsibilities and suggested that for future meetings the time should stick to the standard break at noon.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) in her response apologized for the short lunch break. She explained that the reason was to accommodate different time zones. Regarding the doodle pool, it is not very ideal to become tech dependent. She suggested that the Group should use today's meeting to set a date, and if there is need to adjust it because of availability of those who are not on the call, it can be revisited.

She proposed that since the first Monday and Tuesday in July are sixth and seventh and to accommodate those who may want to take a long weekend, she suggested the meeting date to be Tuesday July 7th.

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (Arctic Bay) said that they are out on the land harvesting during harvesting season for most of June and must come home to the community end of June as the ice cannot be used anymore and so most people are kind of home in the communities in the first week of July. So, July 7th would be most ideal.

Cortney Oliver (BIM) pointed out that the Group would need probably a few days that week. Baffinland is available and supports July 7th for perhaps the TEWG, which typically is one (1) day, and then for the MEWG we could do over two (2) days possibly depending on agenda. She suggested that the July 8th and 9th be earmarked to cover those meetings as well.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) pointed out that July 9th is Nunavut day. To which Cortney Oliver (BIM) suggested that the meeting could hold on the 8th and then any remainder could be done on the Friday July 10th.

HTO representatives Laimiki Ullupak (Sanirajak) and Seemee Qamaniq (Igloodik) commented that the time and dates work for them.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) confirmed the July meeting dates and times and agenda and meeting materials would be sent in advance.

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (Arctic Bay) noted that HTO representatives travel to Iqaluit for scheduled meetings even in June, when many are preparing to go on the land, because they have agreed to participate. He emphasized that providing advance notice for this meeting reflects that shared commitment.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) called for lunch and for the meeting to resume at 12:35pm. She stated that the finalization of the question of dates based on the recommendation from the Government of Nunavut and QIA to look at July 6th – 8th instead of 7th, 8th and 10th and being mindful that the weekend before is Canada day and often people take a long weekend to be on the land would be something the Working Group should think about during lunch.

On return from lunch, Qajaq Robinson started by saying that before the break, the next meeting dates were July 7th, 8th and 10th, however, there was a recommendation to make it July 6th, 7th and 8th. She pointed out that the dates seem fine for those who work in offices, but she wants to make sure that it also works for community and HTA folks.

Seemee Qamaniq (Igloodik) responded that he is good with those dates, saying it is good time because by those dates the ice would be precarious and people would be in town.

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (Arctic Bay) also confirmed that the date works for him.

Qajaq Roninson (Chair) concluded that the meeting would be held **July 6th, 7th and 8th**. If anyone has concerns, they should bring it to her attention.

4. Annual member confirmation

The addenda item related to the confirmation of organizational representative, but due to time. The Chair would be calling the various organization, and this meeting is to give notice to the individual organizations
– **Action MT-0529026-1**

5. Baffinland Operational Update and Financial Status

Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) introduced herself and her role in Baffinland since 2016. She explained why she would deliver the update, given that Baffinland had a significant development that there maybe some questions regarding that.

Before she provided the update, she echoed other sentiments that have been shared and welcomed Qajaq Robinson to the Group as the independent chair. She expressed that many members of the Working Group have had the benefit of working with Qajaq in different ways over the years and think it is a wonderful sign that this Group has put their confidence in Qajaq to help guide it into the next set of milestones.

She also thanked Cortney Oliver (BIM) for chairing the Group. Stating that the Working Group has had a number of chairpersons since it began in 2013, including herself, with Cortney being the most recent. She recognised Cortney for her efforts as it was a significant role to act as chair for the number of years, she acted in this capacity.

On the Baffinland operational update, she said that the most significant development that the company has had occurred two Fridays ago. On May 15th, 2026, Baffinland filed a court proceeding under the Company Creditors Agreement Act, also known as CCAA. Which means that the company is now under creditor protection. This was done because of the significant debt that the company was in and its inability to be able to pay back those debts. What that means is a court order was issued also on May 15th, and a court appointed monitor was appointed to the Baffinland file.

She explained that the length of time that Baffinland would be in this process is unknown, as it would involve several other court hearings that the company will be part of. There was not much else that she could shared on those proceedings as Baffinland management.

She explained that Baffinland requested for a budget to continue to operate through 2026 and the company expects to fulfill the shipping season as well as the trucking of ore. She informed the Working Group that, there has not been any change in employment levels, and the company is expected to be able to continue to employ its staff, including Inuit staff.

She expressed that the current situation is largely because of a couple of years of very cost constrained structures that Baffinland has been operating under because of not being able to expand operations and increase ore transportation. To pay back the significant debt load that the company was carrying over the years it has been implementing a number of costs control structures, which in the past have included layoffs as well as changes to some of the programming that Baffinland would typically undertake.

She informed everyone that there would be a deviation from the five-year monitoring frequency. She reassured the Group that Baffinland would continue to ensure that all Terms and Conditions of the Project Certificate are met and if the company is unable to do so, it would have conversation with the QIA and of

course the NIRB. She expressed that Baffinland has typically run a very robust monitoring system, including all the different programs that have been conducted, but the company cannot run all the programs that it typically would. To address this, the company has applied risk management, based on a number of different factors, that took into consideration the current monitoring results, including current operational capacity and how to ensure compliance with Project Certificate and what is of most interest to community members.

At the next meetings Baffinland would be discussing and presenting the programs that are going ahead this year for both the marine and terrestrial environments.

Questions

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (Arctic Bay) had two questions. The first one, regarding the debts that are owed, He said that they have heard this not only from Baffinland and its not news anymore since they have heard it already. His question was whether the debt was because of poor financial management or because of what the auditors found from their audit? He stated that there could be mismanagement and sometimes setbacks. He asked whether the situation was a setback for Steensby construction or mismanagement.

In response, Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) thanked him for the question and explained that there are some pieces that are left to the court to decide and provide information on. Whether it was due to poor financial management or not, she would not be able to provide an answer and that is ultimately up to the courts. She clarified that it is less poor financial management, but rather due to significant debts that the company was holding, and the inability of the company to repay those loans. Some decisions were made by the company to prepare for an expansion, including the purchase of equipment for a rail project. So, because of the many reasons that most people know on this call, for the delay to moving into a rail project, Baffinland has been carrying a significant debt load as well as running an operation that requires significant investments to maintain. The goal of this court process is to stabilize the operation by restructuring it, and what that will look like is yet to be known, it could involve a sale of the operation, or it could involve some other type of restructure. Therefore, the current management team at Baffinland is continuing to run the operation and is still fully committed to running a responsible operation and it is our hope and intent that we will see the Steensby component of the project built, she explained.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) read out a question from Marie Claude-Martel (PC) whose microphone was not working. She asked that whether the Group should prepare to discuss which programs might need to be reduced or if a decision has already been made. Paul Harper (DFO) also asked a similar question, whether Baffinland will provide a summary of their proposed changes in monitoring programs in advance of the next meeting?

In response, Megan Lord-Hoyle stated that the decision on which programs would be running has already been made, and that has been done for several reasons. Predominantly because we needed to determine a budget that would be accepted for this year, and each program requires a lot of pre-planning and sometimes prepayment. She further said that she can assure the Group that those decisions have been made taking into consideration the factors that she mentioned earlier. She clarified that there are always components or aspects of programs that can be dynamic and left for discussion, but by and large, which programs are going ahead has been set.

Megan Lord-Hoyle, responded to an earlier recommendation by the QIA to hold in person meetings. She confirmed that there will be no in-person meetings in 2026, and she urged that any discussion on 2027 in-person meetings should be done in consideration of Baffinland's financial position. The reason for this, she said is because Baffinland carries the full administrative costs of all these meetings, including venue,

interpretation services, as well as all the costs associated with each HTO participation and the full participation of the QIA. For the purposes of this year, that is a very significant expense and virtual meetings is an alternative to ensure that there is still a functional way for the Group to meet and that this method may have to continue in the future.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair), thanked Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) for her responses, and called on Cortney Oliver (BIM) to answer to the more procedural question and speak specifically to when the information about changes to the monitoring programs would be received by this Group.

Cortney Oliver (BIM) confirmed that the materials would be ready two weeks before the next meeting.

Devin Holterman (WWF) thanked the Chair and Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) for the update. He presented his question in two parts. He said, as recently as in the previous meetings and in Baffinland communications materials, the intention was to begin construction on Steensby in 2026. He asked whether Baffinland was still intending to begin construction on the Steensby components in 2026, and whether the southern management plans would be released for input and review by the Working Groups.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) asked if there were other questions on the CCAA filings and court provided monitor before moving on to other agenda items, like the Steensby Management Plans as it was the next topic on the agenda, without having all questions answered on the current agenda item.

No further questions on the CCAA were raised.

6. Steensby Project and Management Plans Update

Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) addressed Devin's question by clarifying that what she meant was the trucking and shipping aspects of the operation through 2026. Baffinland is actively searching for and in discussions over financial arrangements to allow the Steensby components to go forward. She noted that Baffinland has not been able to reach a satisfactory financial arrangement to date. We were intending that a satisfactory arrangement could be made in Q1 or Q2 of 2026, which would allow us to go forward with some more substantial aspects of the construction of the Steensby components. And that was why we signaled our intention to begin construction in preparation for that, if that became a possibility.

She continued, stating that response around what could happen with Steensby component through 2026 is a bit nuanced or complicated. For example, the company could do work in-house such as quarrying and using waste rock stockpiles to either prepare laydowns or construction pads. But the ability to do much outside of that in 2026 for Steensby, really depends on how this process goes right now and at this time, she can't say how long that will take.

Baffinland's ability to do much also diminishes not just because of finances but also the ability to do things like line up sealifts or be able to bring in equipment or line up contractors in time. The longer the court process goes on, the less ability Baffinland has to do anything significant through 2026. Baffinland will continue to provide updates to the Group as more information becomes available. Currently, there is nothing significant planned for the marine environment specifically. If anything, it would likely be a single sealift, but as she said, the chances of that diminishes as each day passes.

On management plans, Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) stated that Baffinland has been working with the QIA on those management plans for some months and would continue doing that. Baffinland will follow-up on the timing of review.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) called for the next item mindful of the time.

Cortney Oliver (BIM) proposed that the pre-shipping deck could be moved to the next meeting in July. As it is still well before shipping season begins and everyone has had a chance to review the materials.

7. Monitoring Reports

Megan Lord-Hoyle (BIM) started by saying that the NIRB annual monitoring report would be submitted later that day. Therefore, all parties would have the ability to review that once NIRB releases it publicly. In the report it is mentioned that there are a few monitoring reports in draft and they will be provided in final version as soon as they are available. She offered a correction and stated that some are not in draft form yet.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) asked if there are any questions on those two issues of the management plan and monitoring reports. She thanked everyone for participating and asking questions and engaging.

She assured participants that the information they need would be provided in advance of next meeting. She noted that the July meeting would be intense with a lot of volume, so the materials would be out as soon as possible, so the Group can digest it. She thanked Cortney Oliver (BIM) for the work that she has done and helping her prepare for today and for being so accessible. She specially thanked Geela Naqica (BIM) for being the sole translator for the meeting, and that is such a challenging but essential role to ensure communication happens.

Seemee Qamaniq (Igloodik) asked for clarification on HTO payment and invoice for the meeting participation.

Qajaq Robinson (Chair) explained that invoices should be sent to Jesse Manufor (BIM) and provided his email address.

Meeting adjourned at 2:46pm.