

NIRB File No. 09DN009 INAC File No. N2007C0044 NWB File No. 3BC-AWW-xxxx

March 3, 2009

Éric Trépanier
Director Land Environment, Chief of Land Staff
Department of National Defence
c/o Justin Thomas, Environmental Advisor
Department of National Defence
Ottawa, ON

Via email: thomas.jt@forces.gc.ca

Re: <u>Notice of Part 4 Screening and comment request for Éric Trépanier's "DND Winter Warfare Advanced Course" project proposal</u>

Dear Mr. Thomas:

On January 29, 2009 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received Éric Trépanier's "DND Winter Warfare Advanced Course" project proposal from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA). On February 26, 2009 the NIRB received a positive conformity determination (North Baffin Regional Land Use Plan) from the Nunavut Planning Commission. NIRB has assigned this project proposal file number **09DN009**.

The proposed project is located in Cornwallis Island, based in the community of Resolute Bay. The program is proposed to take place from March 6, 2009 to March 18, 2009. Course participants will be planning, mounting and executing a mock sovereignty patrol, employing Canadian Rangers and navigating while using GPS and astrocompass. The candidates will practice skiing, ski-joring, use of light over-snow vehicles (skidoo) and medium over-snow vehicle (BV-206), and towing loads. Other project activities include:

- Communicating in arctic conditions;
- Assessing the effects of cold on training;
- Conducting re-supply operations;
- Applying First-Aid in arctic conditions;
- Conducting casualty evacuations;
- Demonstrating arctic survival techniques;
- Establishing bivouacs;
- Constructing snow structures;
- Conducting tactical training; and
- Conducting community relations' activities.

All documents received and pertaining to this project proposal (NIRB File No. **09DN009**) can be obtained from NIRB's ftp site at http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/ACTIVE%20SCREENINGS/09DN009-DND%20-%20Winter%20Warfare%20Advanced%20Course/ including:

- QIA Application for access to IOL
- Non technical Project Proposal summary in English and Inuktitut
- *NPC Conformity Determination*

Pursuant to Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), NIRB shall proceed to screen the subject project proposal. NIRB may request additional information at any time during the process. NIRB will copy you on screening process related correspondence and upload related documents to the above ftp site for public access.

Be advised that NIRB is copying interested Parties and municipalities most affected by your project proposal. Interested persons are encouraged to comment directly to the NIRB by March 9, 2009.

NIRB would like Parties to provide comments regarding:

- Whether the project proposal is likely to arouse significant public concern; and if so, why;
- Whether the project proposal is likely to cause significant adverse eco-systemic and socioeconomic effects; and if so, why;
- Whether the project is of a type where the potential adverse effects are highly predictable and mitigable with known technology, (please provide any recommended mitigation measures); and
- Any matter of importance to the Party related to the project proposal.

Please note that proposed project-specific terms and conditions, should the project proceed, have been attached for consideration and comment (Appendix A).

Please send your comments to the attention of NIRB's Manager of Environmental Administration, Leslie Payette via email at lpayette@nirb.ca or via fax at (867) 983-2594.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the NIRB's Technical Advisor, Ryan Barry at (867) 983-4608 or rbarry@nirb.ca.

Sincerely,

Cc:

Nunavut Impact Review Board

Ryan Barry, Technical Advisor

Distribution List

Salamonie Shoo – QIA (<u>landadmin@qia.ca</u>)

Spencer Dewar – INAC (spencer.dewar@inac-ainc.gc.ca) Phyllis Beaulieu – NWB (<u>licensing@nunavutwaterboard.org</u>)

Attachments: Appendix A – *Proposed* Project-specific Terms and Conditions

Comment Form

Appendix A - Proposed Project-specific Terms and Conditions

The following is a list of project-specific terms and conditions which, should the project proceed, may be recommended to be attached to any approval.

General

- 1. Éric Trépanier Department of National Defence (the Proponent) shall maintain a copy of the Project Terms and Conditions at the site of operation at all times.
- 2. The Proponent shall forward copies of all permits obtained and required for this project to the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB) prior to the commencement of the project.
- 3. The Proponent shall operate the site in accordance with all applicable Acts, Regulations and Guidelines.

Water

4. The Proponent shall not use water, including constructing or disturbing any stream, lakebed or the banks of any definable water course unless approved by the Nunavut Water Board.

Waste

5. The Proponent shall keep all garbage and debris in bags placed in a covered metal container or equivalent until disposed of at an approved facility. All wastes shall be kept inaccessible to wildlife at all times.

Fuel and Chemical Storage

- 6. The Proponent shall locate all fuel and other hazardous materials a minimum of thirty-one (31) metres away from the high water mark of any water body and in such a manner as to prevent their release into the environment.
- 7. The Proponent shall store all chemicals in such a manner that they are inaccessible to wildlife.
- 8. The Proponent shall report all spills of fuel, or other deleterious materials immediately to the 24 hour Spill Line at (867) 920-8130.

Wildlife

- 9. The Proponent shall ensure that there is no damage to wildlife habitat in conducting this operation.
- 10. The Proponent shall not harass wildlife. This includes persistently worrying or chasing animals, or disturbing large groups of animals. The Proponent shall not hunt or fish, unless proper Nunavut authorizations have been acquired.
- 11. The Proponent shall restrict aircraft/helicopter activity related to the project to a minimum altitude of 610 metres above ground level unless there is a specific requirement for low-level flying, which does not disturb wildlife and migratory birds.
- 12. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft maintain a vertical distance of 1000 metres and a horizontal distance of 1500 metres from any observed groups (colonies) of migratory birds.
- 13. The Proponent shall ensure that aircraft/helicopter do not, unless for emergency, touch-down in areas where wildlife are present.
- 14. The Proponent shall ensure all project staff are trained in appropriate bear/carnivore detection and deterrent techniques.

Physical Environment

- 15. The Proponent shall not move any equipment or vehicles unless the ground surface is in a state capable of fully supporting the equipment or vehicles without rutting or gouging. The Proponent shall suspend overland travel of equipment or vehicles if rutting occurs.
- 16. The Proponent shall ensure that the land use area is kept clean and tidy at all times.

Camp

- 17. The Proponent shall ensure that all camps are located on gravel, sand or other durable land.
- 18. The Proponent shall not erect camps or store material on the surface ice of lakes or streams.

Restoration

- 19. The Proponent shall remove all garbage, fuel and equipment upon abandonment.
- 20. The Proponent shall complete all clean-up and restoration of the lands used prior to the expiry date of the permit.

Other

21. The Proponent should, to the extent possible, hire local people and to consult with local residents regarding their activities in the region.