



June 9, 2004

All departments and agencies:

Nunavut Water Board (Philippe Di Pizzo – exec@nwb.nunavut.ca)

Government of Nunavut (Gord Mackay - gmackay@gov.nu.ca)

Indian & Northern Affairs Canada (Janice Traynor – traynorj@inac-ainc.gc.ca)

Department of Fisheries & Oceans (Tania Gordanier - gordaniert@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Natural Resources Canada (John Ramsey - jramsey@nrcan.gc.ca)

Environment Canada (Colette Meloche - colette.meloche@ec.gc.ca)

Re: Issuance of Project Certificate, Jericho Diamond Mine,

Dear Sir/Madame:

The Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) has reviewed the letter received June 7, 2004 from the Hon. Andy Mitchell, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC). In that letter, Minister Mitchell asked the Board to issue the Project Certificate, and in so doing, to: "... consult with those departments and agencies with jurisdictional responsibility..." to consider their needs. The Minister also asked NIRB to ensure that the primary objectives of section 12.2.5 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) are met in the issuance of the project certificate.

The issuance of the project certificate is the last major step that NIRB will take (besides monitoring) relative to this project, and it is an important step. With that in mind, and knowing that the Board, and for that matter all departments and agencies, have an extremely busy summer schedule, the Board has decided to set the date for NIRB's meeting with the departments and agencies, to discuss the development of the project certificate, as: **June 29-30, 2004, in Iqaluit.** The exact location will be determined shortly.

The Board is pleased with the Minister's decision and looks forward to the next meeting with the departments and agencies in Iqaluit. By copy of this letter to Tahera, the Board invites Tahera to be in touch with each of the departments and agencies immediately, so that they can fully understand the regulatory requirements.

Due to the Kitikmeot Inuit Association (KIA) permitting function, the Board also extends an invitation for KIA to participate should they wish to do so.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 867 983-2593.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephanie Briscoe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'S'.

Stephanie Briscoe
Executive Director

cc. NTI, KIA, Tahera