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FROM THE DESK OF CHRIS R. LALANDE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT OFFICE OF THE HON. DAVID SIMAILAK, MLA

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET FROM: Elizabeth Copeland Chris R. Lalande COMPANY: DATE: Nunavut Impact Review Board May 3, 2006 FAX NUMBER: TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1-867-983-2574 RE: Letter from MLA David Simailak ☐ URGENT G FOR REVIEW ☐ PLEASE COMMENT ☐ PLEASE REPLY ☐ PLEASE RECYCLE NOTES/COMMENTS: Please see the attached letter I am forwarding on behalf of David Simailak, MLA for Baker Lake.

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Nunavut Maligaliurvia Assemblée législative du Nunavut

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Mrs. Elizabeth Copeland Chairperson Nunavut Impact Review Board P.O. Box 2379 Cambridge Bay, NU X0B 0C0

Dear Ms. Copeland:

As Member of the Legislative Assembly for Baker Lake, I support responsible exploration and development of Nunavut's mineral resources. I believe that this is the best prospect for much needed employment as well as being critical to the economic and fiscal future of Nunavut.

Our challenge is to ensure that there is sufficient information and commitment from proponents, while not setting the bar so high that we discourage investment altogether.

The NIRB review process is a key element in ensuring that any proposed development is responsible and that it provides maximum benefits to Nunavut and its citizens, particularly Inuit. I commend the thorough review conducted by NIRB on Cumberland Resources' Meadowbank Mine.

I also believe that Cumberland Resources have demonstrated, through their past performance, their Final EIS, the NIRB Hearings and the IIBA, their commitment to a high standard in meeting our environmental and socio-economic expectations for the Meadowbank project. There seems to be general agreement amongst all interveners that this is a good project and it should be allowed, even encouraged to proceed.

It appears that the few remaining information issues identified in NIRB's April 24th letter to Cumberland Resources Ltd. should be relatively easy to resolve. However, we are all aware that any lengthy delay in Cumberland's approval will delay the project and the resulting economic benefits and may even threaten the viability of this project, while discouraging other mineral developments in Nunavut.

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I therefore encourage NIRB to conclude the review of the Meadowbank review and make a timely recommendation on this project.

Yours sincerely,

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The Honourable David Simailak, MLA Baker Lake

c.c.: Mr. David Aksawnee

Mayor, Hamlet of Baker Lake

Mr. Tongola Sandy President, KIA