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Serving the communities of

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Arctic Bay

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Grise Fiord

Δᓇ Igloolik

Δ⁹b ⊂ Δ¹
Iqaluit

PLRPC

P⁺⁺Δ^C

Kingair

Language

Pond Inle

Qikiqtarjua

9b▷2ΔC9b

1-8-15b

Sanikiluaq

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December 5, 2025

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

Stephanie Autut
Nunavut Water Board
P.O. Box 119
Gjoa Haven, NU X0B 1L0

Re: Submission of Six Inuit Stewardship Program (ISP) Reports Related to the Mary River Project

Dear Chairs and Members of the Nunavut Impact Review Board and Nunavut Water Board,

On behalf of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), I am pleased to submit six reports generated through the Inuit Stewardship Program (ISP) for your review and consideration. These reports represent several years of Inuit-led monitoring and research related to community experiences around the Mary River Project. Given the anticipated public interest in these studies, I wish to provide context for the intent, governance, and integrity of this work.

The ISP is a community-driven program, initially conceived during the Inuit Certainty Agreement process. Although the program was not carried forward after the NIRB did not support Baffinland Iron Mines Corp.’s (Baffinland) Phase 2 expansion, QIA heard clearly (and continues to hear) from communities that Inuit-led monitoring remains a priority. In response, QIA secured commitments from Baffinland to fund the program for a defined scope and duration, and received additional support from the Government of Canada as part of its mandate to advance responsible development of Critical Minerals projects.

The ISP is overseen by the Inuit Avatimut Kamattiarjarnimut Katimajjut (IAKK), a committee comprised of representatives from each impacted community. As recognized through multiple NIRB reviews—including Phase 2, the 2022 Production Increase Renewal, and the Sustaining Operations Proposal—Inuit-led studies fill critical gaps between western scientific monitoring and Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit. In response to these findings, QIA committed to carrying out several studies, including the Pond Inlet Country Food Baseline Study and other mandated research, with Baffinland’s support. Additional studies were subsequently directed by the IAKK based on community priorities.

