

حَاثَ صَادِهُ وَ مِسْرُدُكُ صَادِهُ لَا كُوْلُوْ Department of Health Munaqhiliqiyitkut Ministère de la Santé

Amy Elgersma Chief Administrative Officer City of Iqaluit

By email

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019

RE: City of Iqaluit Immediate Need to Supplement Drinking Water Supply

Dear Ms. Elgersma:

Thank you for your letter dated June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The Department of Health (Health) has reviewed your submission and its attachments (19123143-TM-Rev0-Water Balance Modelling-02July2019). Health concurs with the predicted assessment of the water shortage. To this end pumping activities should begin as soon as possible to take advantage of the window of opportunity to ensure Lake Geraldine has sufficient water to service the City of Iqaluit for the coming winter.

Health understands and appreciates the NWB process and regulatory framework. It is crucial for the City and the NWB to be aware of the implications to public health with respect to water quantity and the failure to meet the City's needs. The City's proposed contingencies, respecting water conservation, pressure reduction and rotating shut offs, should immediate supplementation of the reservoir not occur, are not entirely acceptable to Health. Specifically the City has mixed residential and business zones. Restricting water use could affect medical, daycare, schools and other sensitive sites that heavily rely on sufficient quantity to ensure health and sanitation. Equally important is the consideration that Iqaluit has public health considerations that require sufficient supply of potable water to help control the spread of communicable diseases that are already present in the community. Communicable diseases are exacerbated by overcrowding and insufficient potable water necessary for cooking, washing and cleaning.

Health requests that the City of Iqaluit provide regular updates and inclusion in any committees or task force groups as this project moves forward.

Sincerely,

Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health

Mon



﴿ثَ صَارِبُهُ ثِنَ عَبْدُ الْحَالِمُ Department of Health Munaqhiliqiyitkut Ministère de la Santé

## Dr. Michael Patterson, MD, CCFP, MPH

L∆d <̈⊃५°

**Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH)** 

Department of Health Government of Nunavut

4°σ4'6°CΔCL+Cn2+Ln6 4°σ4'6°a-«"(°)Cn2+d° Δα9° 6« L%6 Médecin-Hygiéniste en Chef Ministère de la Santé Gouvernement du Nunavut

Atannilluaq Munaqhiliqiyitkunut Munaqhiliqiyitkut Nunavut Kavamanga



☎ (867)975-5760掛 (867)979-8648MPatterson@gov.nu.ca

Dept. of Health
PO Box 1000, Stn 1000
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0