

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**



Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) has participated in the ongoing review of the City of Iqaluit (City) water licence application for the Municipality of Iqaluit, which includes municipal infrastructure, drinking water treatment, wastewater treatment, and a landfill site. The City is located in the Eastern Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut, on the southern extent of Baffin Island. The application is for amendment #1 of its existing Type A Nunavut Water Board water licence 3AM-IQA1626, which proposes to increase the volume of water permitted for extraction from the Lake Geraldine reservoir from 1.1 million cubic metres to 2 million cubic metres, and the temporary supplementation of the reservoir from the nearby Niaqunguk (Apex) River.

During the technical review, topics discussed include:

- The scope of the Application;
- The term of the amended Licence;
- The development of a Drinking Water Management Plan;
- Contingency planning to address potential water insufficiency in the Niaqunguk (Apex) River;
- Monitoring of water level and flow in the Niagunguk (Apex) River;
- Solutions for long-term sustainable water sources; and
- The status of various updates and additions to management plans.

Most of the issues identified by CIRNAC have been resolved through discussions with the City. The outstanding issue relates to the development of a Contingency Plan to address the City's response to a situation in which the City's demand for water from the Niaqunguk (Apex) River cannot be supplied at the available flow, while maintaining a pumping rate within Department of Fisheries and Oceans Guidelines for the preservation of fish habitat (10% instantaneous flow and 30% mean annual discharge). CIRNAC also recommends the predictive model, which assesses the need to pump from the Niaqunguk (Apex) River to top up the Lake Geraldine Reservoir, be updated yearly with new data.

