



**NIRB File No.: 06LN083**  
INAC File No.: 058H07001  
NRI File No: 0204006R-M

July 5, 2010

Honourable Daniel Shewchuk  
Minister Responsible for Nunavut Arctic College  
Government of Nunavut  
c/o Mosha Cote - Manager, Research Liaison  
Nunavut Research Institute  
Iqaluit, NU

Via email: [mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca](mailto:mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca)

**Re: Application exempt from Screening pursuant to Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA: Pascal Lee's "Haughton-Mars" project**

Dear Mosha Cote:

On June 15, 2010 the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) received a Scientific Research Licence renewal application from the Nunavut Research Institute (NRI) for Pascal Lee's "Haughton-Mars" project.

Please be advised that the original project proposal (NIRB File No.: 06LN083) was received by the NIRB from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC) on November 29, 2006 and was screened by the Board in accordance with Part 4, Article 12 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). On March 16, 2007 the NIRB issued the enclosed NLCA 12.4.4(a) screening decision to the Minister of INAC indicating the proposed project could proceed subject to NIRB's recommended project-specific terms and conditions.

The current NRI application, the original NIRB Screening Decision Report (06LN083) and related file information are available from the NIRB's ftp site at the following link: [http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/ARCHIVE/2006\\_SCREENINGS/06LN083-Dr. Pascal Lee/1-SCREENING/](http://ftp.nirb.ca/SCREENINGS/COMPLETED%20SCREENINGS/ARCHIVE/2006_SCREENINGS/06LN083-Dr._Pascal_Lee/1-SCREENING/)

#### PREVIOUSLY-SCREENED PROJECT PROPOSAL

As previously screened by the NIRB under File No. 06LN083, the Mars Institute's "Haughton-Mars" project was located in Devon Island, Qikiqtaaluk region, approximately 168 kilometres (km) northeast from Resolute. The proposed research camp and activities were to be located at the Haughton impact crater site on Devon Island, within the general vicinity of a separate

research facility operated by the Mars Society. The Proponent indicated that it intended to meet three goals:

1. Space Science: To advance our knowledge of planets (Earth, Moon, Mars, and beyond) through comparative studies and to investigate life in extreme environments
2. Space exploration: to prepare for future space and planetary exploration with robots and humans, including testing future Mars rovers and supporting astronaut training.
3. To share with the public the excitement of space science and exploration.

The activities/components associated with this proposal included:

- The scientific study of Haughton crater and surrounding terrain (the history of water and the adaptations of microbial life to extreme environments);
- Testing and validation for new technologies and approaches for space exploration, including rovers, habitats, tools and instruments;
- Education and public outreach activities;
- Camp site for up to 39 people;
- Fuel storage;
- Sewage or grey water disposal via sump;
- Incineration of combustible wastes and removal of non-combustible wastes; and
- Use of aircraft and mechanized vehicles.

#### CURRENT APPLICATION

Please note that Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA states that:

*“Any application for a component or activity of a project proposal that has been permitted to proceed in accordance with these provisions shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by NIRB unless:*

*(a) such component or activity was not part of the original project proposal; or*

*(b) its inclusion would significantly modify the project. ”*

After completing a review of the information provided in support of the current application, the NIRB is of the understanding that the proposed renewal does not change the general scope of the original project activities, and the exceptions noted in NLCA 12.4.3(a) and (b) do not apply. Therefore, this application is exempt from screening as per Section 12.4.3 of the NLCA and the activities therein remain subject to the terms and conditions recommended in the original March 16, 2007 Screening Decision Report (enclosed).

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kelli Gillard, Technical Advisor, at (867) 983-4619 or [kgillard@nirb.ca](mailto:kgillard@nirb.ca).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Autut', enclosed within a light grey rectangular border.

Stephanie Autut  
Executive Director

cc: Dr. Pascal Lee, at [pascal.lee@marsinstitute.net](mailto:pascal.lee@marsinstitute.net)

Enclosed: NIRB Screening Decision Report, File No.: 06LN083 (March 16, 2007)