



**NOTICE OF RELEASE OF SCREENING DECISION REPORT
NIRB FILE NO.: 16YN013**

April 24, 2016

Mosha Cote
Manager, Research Liaison
Nunavut Research Institute
P.O. Box 1720
Iqaluit, NU X0A 0H0

Sent via email: mosha.cote@arcticcollege.ca

Re: Notice of Release of Screening Decision Report for McGill University's "The beginning of an Era: characterizing the depositional environment of Earth's earliest eukaryotic life" Project Proposal, Qikiqtani Region, NIRB File No. 16YN013

Dear Mosha Cote:

Enclosed is the Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB or Board) Screening Decision Report to the Honourable Paul Quassa, Minister of Nunavut Arctic College for McGill University's "The beginning of an Era: characterizing the depositional environment of Earth's earliest eukaryotic life" in the Qikiqtani Region, dated April 24, 2016.

The NIRB has assessed this project proposal for ecosystemic and socio-economic impacts taking into consideration the comments from relevant authorities and communities. Based on this assessment, the Board has indicated to the responsible Minister(s) that a review of the project is not required in accordance with paragraph 92(1)(a) of the *Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act* (NuPPAA). Accordingly, the NIRB awaits a response from the Minister.

In the absence of a response from the Minister, regulatory authorities should take note of paragraph 75(1)(e) of the *NuPPAA*, which provides: "A regulatory authority is not authorized to issue a licence, permit or other authorization in respect of a project if the responsible Minister has decided either that the project could be modified and an amended project submitted to the Commission or that it is not to proceed." Contravention of section 75(1) of the *NuPPAA* will render a licence, permit or other authorization issued of no force or effect.

Please contact Stephanie Taptuna, NIRB Outreach Coordinator at (867) 983-4610 or info@nirb.ca if you have any questions or require additional clarification.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Taptuna
Outreach Coordinator

cc: Malcolm Hodgkiss, McGill University
Karén Kharatyan, Nunavut Water Board
Joel Fortier, Qikiqtani Inuit Association

Enclosure: NIRB Screening Decision Report (NIRB File No.: 16YN013)