



Inuvialuit Regional Corporation

June 8, 2012. Bag Service #21, Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0
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Jim Stevens
Director, Mackenzie Valley Highway
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Dear Mr. Stevens:

Comments on Canadian Census Request to Developer – May 25, 2012.

This letter is in response to the Inuvialuit Environmental Impact Review Board letter dated May 25, 2012 regarding Directives to the Developer for socio-economic information for the Construction of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway, in particular the following two Directives:

- #5. The Developer will update the socio-economic impact assessment with 2011 Canadian census data and any new information available from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and the IRC. The Developer will identify where any impact predictions and proposed mitigation measures have changes as a result and provide any necessary explanations.
- #6. The Developer will re-evaluate the impacts and proposed mitigation for any valued socio-economic component based on the information gathered and provided in the Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Land Use report. The Developer will also re-evaluate the impacts and proposed mitigation for any valued socio-economic component that would be affected by changes to the biological components where baseline information will only become available in August 2012.

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First of all, I would like to thank Mr Gavin More in responding to the EIRB's Directive on the 2011 Canadian census data. IRC concurs with the GNWT departments that updating data will not yield any meaningful changes to the existing impact predictions or proposed mitigation measures, and does not see a need for the EIRB to seek further clarification or directives in regard to this matter. I would however like to provide the following explanation to address the subject of "any new information available from the GNWT Bureau of Statistics and the IRC".

The Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC) has funded the Bureau of Statistics to assist in building on the Inuvialuit Indicators Project, which was created to establish baseline statistical and administrative data based on indicators that the Inuvialuit identified to measure valued socio-economic objectives. This work can be viewed at: www.inuvialuitindicators.com.

IRC has contracted the Bureau for a five-year period to organize publically available (Statistics Canada and Bureau data) and GNWT administrative data of Inuvialuit and Inuvialuit communities. This data is organized into an Inuvialuit Master File and available through the previously mentioned web site. In addition, IRC has data sharing arrangements with Statistics Canada to access micro files from the Aboriginal Peoples Survey (2006 and 2011) and McGill University – Inuit Health Research Survey results. It is the objective of these relationships to establish baseline data that will be useful to:

- measure Inuvialuit and Inuvialuit social, cultural and economic conditions;
- analyse changes in those conditions; and
- develop appropriate measures to improve those conditions.

One aspect of the IRC research work is to identify the key indicators of change from industrial development. To this end, IRC in partnership with the Arctic Council Social Indicators Working Group is undertaking a case study to:

- Apply Arctic Social Indicators (ASI) system to Inuvialuit Region based on available data over period from approximately 2001 to 2011.
- Develop synthetic indicator system, based on ASI and previous work undertaken by Inuvialuit Regional Corporation that best satisfies requirements of various Inuvialuit organizations for an indicator system based on existing, available data.
- Operationalize Inuvialuit-specific data for use in understanding historical economic activity (e.g., Benefit Agreement reports).
- Analyse ASI and Inuvialuit-specific indicator systems for relationships between economic activity, and in particular hydrocarbon resource extraction activity, and social, cultural and economic indicators that comprise the indicator system, with consideration to how findings may usefully influence future regulatory and evaluation processes.

As a result of this Case Study it is hoped that with clearly identified indicators, IRC will have a capability to address the EIRB Directive to predict possible impacts. As well, IRC completed an extensive survey of community residents and community workshops to determine predictions of impacts based on Inuvialuit experiences with past boom and bust cycles of resource development, and learn what mitigation measures Inuvialuit felt would be useful to address impacts from the Mackenzie Gas Project.

In the development of an Investment Plan for the Mackenzie Gas Project Impact Fund, IRC identified measures that would increase economic benefits and address negative social and cultural impacts upon the residents within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The Impact Fund Investment Plan is also consistent with the Beaufort Delta Agenda (strategic plan) first developed in 2002 and revised every four years. This body of work is used by IRC as a workplan to:

- improve Inuvialuit social, cultural and economic conditions;
- fund raise and implement (mitigation) projects; and

- work with various levels and departments of government (see Chart of Mitigation Measures and Projects to Improve Inuvialuit Social, Cultural and Economic Conditions).

It should also be stated that the community of Tuktoyaktuk, which may see the most long term social, cultural and economic changes with the addition of road access of 7 months have made their own efforts to address negative conditions and impacts within their community:

- established alcohol control measures;
- conducted a pilot project to improve the delivery of counselling services;
- spearheaded feasibility studies for the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway;
- funded 28 kilometers to gravel source and obtained training funds as part of this project (which is part of the proposed Highway);
- aggressively pursuing economic opportunities that will result from the construction and maintenance of the Inuvik to Tuktoyaktuk Highway; and

A new highway would also reduce the cost of living (food and other consumer goods); this in a general sense will improve all social, cultural and economic conditions of Inuvialuit households.

Although these efforts by IRC and affected communities is not specifically targeted to address predicted impacts from the Highway, a combination of having a robust monitoring system (Inuvialuit Indicators Project) and constant follow up in the development and implementation of measures and projects will minimize disruption and negative social, cultural and economic impacts.

| Mitigation Measures and Projects to Improve Inuvialuit Social, Cultural and Economic Conditions | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Measures/Projects | Current Results | Future Activity | |
| Early Childhood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct Education and Developmental Assessments - Establish Therapeutic Care Team - Certification/Training | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early Childhood Committee established - Funding cancelled economic downturn. - IRC developed draft training manual and continues to lobby GNWT ECE to develop certification standards | Funding proposal to initiate training of Early Childhood Practitioners in accordance with Certification Standards and Early Childhood Committee 10 module workshops | |
| Counselling Services Education Support Workers and Career Counsellors to work with parents, teachers and student | BDEC established counselling positions in each community – 1 year funding | Evaluate BDEC Counselling positions and develop counselling proposal for permanent program funding | |
| Teachers & Support Staff To improve the quality of education additional teachers hired for trades, math, literacy and sciences | BDEC hired personnel to deliver trades in schools | Assess need for trades shops – discuss partnership with College (Mobile Trades and Personnel) | |
| Improve K-12 Infrastructure and Equipment | BDEC integrate technology into classrooms | Assess facility and equipment | |
| Post Secondary, Recruitment and Professional Retention Strategy | IRC has researched IEF scholarship and barriers to success | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review GNWT HR program and Staff Housing Subsidy Project - Transfer Student Financial Assistance - Develop Training & Capacity Plan | |
| Social Policy Research with SSHRC Funded - Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA) (Education) | Completed several Social Policy Research: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addictions and Mental Health, - Social Housing and Income Support, - Economic Life of Inuvialuit Households - Submitted Education Research Proposal to ReSDA - Obtained ECE Administrative Data | Conduct comprehensive Education Social Policy Research Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop Inuvialuit policies and recommend changes to meet Inuvialuit interests. - Review social policy work in response to GNWT Poverty Strategy initiative. | |

| Measures/Projects | Current Results | Future Activities |
|--|--|--|
| Additions and Mental Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed Gap Analysis and created Steering Committee with Health and Social Services to address policy and delivery gaps in counselling services. - Conducted Pilot Project in Tuktoyaktuk for community based counselling services. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed Action Plan and implementing several initiatives, including on improving local hire of counselling positions - Staff members have been trained in Mental Health First Aide and redesigned the Canadian Mental Health Commissions curriculum to suit northern environment. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family Wellness and Parenting Program - Improve life and parenting skills | GNWT and IRC delivered life and parenting skills workshops in all six Inuvialuit communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluate and redesign wellness workshops - |
| Fitness and Healthy Living Promotion Strategy | | Develop with GNWT staff workplan |
| Safe Communities and Crime Prevention | GNWT and RCMP piloting 3 positions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Nunavik's policing - Evaluate pilot program |
| Enhance Traditional Economy and Small Business Infrastructure | IRC – CEDO working with communities to establish business infrastructure | Develop funding proposals |
| Inuvialuit Education Model and Curriculum Materials | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Production & printing Taimani Historical Timeline - Develop teaching material for grade 10 - 12 Inuvialuit history and land claims - Pilot Taimani 25 in High Schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop Taimani Website - Update Curriculum and resources for 5 year delivery of Taimani 25 |
| Inuvialuit Second Language and Immersion Program | 2 nd language curriculum implemented and training of language instructors fall '09 | Development of immersion programs for K to 3 |
| On the Land Programs | | Fund raise |

The Developer will re-evaluate the impacts and proposed mitigation for any valued socio-economic component based on the information gathered and provided in the Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Land Use report. The Developer will also re-evaluate the impacts and proposed mitigation for any valued socio-economic component that would be affected by changes to the biological components where baseline information will only become available in August 2012.

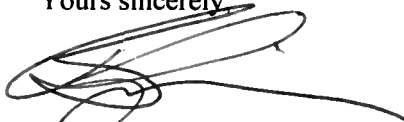
The above Directive is very difficult for the Developer to address; is there an issue with the current information gathered? Or has the EIRB found that there are other impacts and a need for mitigation for any valued socio-economic components that would be affected by changes to the biological components that would require a re-evaluation? Perhaps a better way of addressing this Directive is to understand how biological components may be impacted and how those impacts will be monitored and managed (mitigated). Both the Inuvialuit Game Council or Inuvialuit Regional Corporation have very little to add to what the Developer has already provided, except to state:

- Both the Hunters and Trappers Committees of Inuvik and Tuktoyaktuk as a normal course of their responsibilities will bring to the attention the appropriate body or regulatory authority if there is any changes to the biological components with recommendations on mitigation measures;
- Inuvialuit Game Council will work closely with other co-management bodies and other government authorities to ensure that the Inuvialuit Final Agreement objective “to protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment and biological productivity” is implemented.
- Inuvialuit Regional Corporation is currently completing a research project on the “Economic Life of Inuvialuit Households” which will provide some data on the dependency of Inuvialuit households on country food. This data is based on a case study in one of the Inuvialuit communities that surveyed all households, review consistency with other statistical information, and Aboriginal Peoples Survey. This base line data will be maintained by IRC and reviewed to determine changing socio-economic affects from the Highway and other activities.

As previously stated the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, working with government departments and other Inuvialuit community and regional institutions, has developed a robust system to monitor social, cultural and economic changes. In addition, the Inuvialuit Game Council and Hunters and Trappers Committees have a proven track record of managing harvesting and wildlife populations, as evidenced in their responses to the recent decline in caribou populations.

IRC hopes that the above information is useful to the Developers to address the EIRB. Since IRC was directly mentioned in the Directive but is not a Developer, there is a need for IRC staff to approach the EIRB so the EIRB has a full understanding of the IRC’s work.

Yours sincerely



Bob Simpson, Director
Intergovernmental Relations.