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House of Commons
Chambre des Communes
Canada



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Lori Idlout

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Hon. Dan Vandal, MP.
Minister of Northern Affairs
Government of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON.
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November 1, 2024

Sent by email: dan.vandal@rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca

Minister Vandal,

I write to encourage you to proactively take the necessary steps to finalize the Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP). I add my voice to support the Friends of Land Use Planning and their recommendations for a timely approval of the NLUP while managing conditions of the agreement in a collaborative manner.

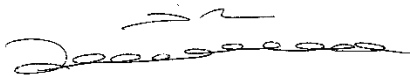
I urge you to approve the recommended land use plan for finalization. The NLUP is the final requirement of the 1993 Nunavut agreement. Inuit have spoken clearly and consistently since engagement on the NLUP started in 2007. The Nunavut Planning Commission has listened to rights holders and stakeholders and has come up with their best recommendation. Now is the time to act on their recommendation.

The NLUP is the manner by which devolution will be meaningful and further delays will only cause further disagreements and set-backs to our communities. While mining projects represent a source of paying jobs for Nunavut residents, it is not the only source. Approving the NLUP will help ensure Inuit can use their culture such as fisheries to ensure a move towards economic independence while protecting the environment. The NLUP creates opportunities for young people to learn skills, build

careers, and provide for their families and communities, based on their own self-determination. While there is so much focus on mining, these projects should only advance with the free, prior, and informed consent of affected Inuit and other Indigenous peoples. The NLUP is the pathway to free, prior, and informed consent as was envisioned by the Inuit negotiators to the Nunavut Agreement over 30 years ago.

The NLUP represents a difficult balance between safeguarding what is most precious to Inuit – the land and its animals – with industrial development. The time to strike that balance is now.

Taimakalauq



Lori Idlout ᓂᓂ ᐃᑦᓕᓄᑦᓂᑦ

Member of Parliament ᓕᓕᓕᓕᓄᑦᓂᑦᓂᑦᓂᑦᓂᑦ

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CC:

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland Minister of Finance

The Honourable Steven Guilbeault Minister of Environment and Climate Change

The Honourable Diane Lebouthillier Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard

The Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

The Honourable Gary Anandasangaree Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations

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President Robert Greenley Kitikmeot Inuit association

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Friends of Nunavut Land Use Planning