

Statement

GN Response to NIRB's Baffinland Recommendations

September 14, 2012 Iqaluit, NU

Statement from Premier Eva Aariak:

"The Nunavut Impact Review Board today released its recommendations to the Government of Canada in regards to the Baffinland Project.

In *Tamapta 2009-2013 - The Government of Nunavut's Action Plan,* the Government of Nunavut (GN) made a commitment to work with Inuit organizations, the federal government and industry to support efficient and effective environmental assessments in Nunavut.

The GN will be diligent in completing a review of the recommendations made by NIRB to the Government of Canada and will be able to comment in more detail once that is complete. We look forward to a timely decision from the Federal Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.

The GN continues to retain a balanced and sustainable approach to mineral development in Nunavut. We do this by supporting the existing regulatory process as set out in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement as a comprehensive, inclusive and effective means of evaluating projects in Nunavut on a case by case basis.

Devolution will help to streamline the regulatory process and provide more certainty for Nunavummiut and our business sector. Once a devolution agreement is reached with Canada, it will be Nunavummiut who make these important decisions for our territory."

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