





## Nunavut Impact

### Review Board Mission:

To protect and promote the well-being of the environment and Nunavummiut through the impact assessment process.

Cover photo: Inuksuit near Cambridge Bay

Photo: Sophia Granchinho

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**Notes:**

The abbreviations “the NIRB” and “the Board” are used interchangeably throughout this document with reference to the Nunavut Impact Review Board.

**Disclaimers:**

This Guide is provided as a convenient reference for the general public to explain the general terminology and definitions used in the NIRB’s assessment processes in a plain language format. However, parties reviewing this Guide are reminded that this terminology and the resulting legal responsibilities of all participants in the NIRB’s processes are as established under the *Nunavut Agreement*, the *NuPPAA* and other applicable legislation and any relevant project-specific direction issued by any authorities with jurisdiction over that project. All parties are independently responsible for ensuring they confirm their understanding of the key terms and definitions necessary to comply with the applicable legal responsibilities imposed under these provisions. To the extent that this Guide or any steps outlined within it are inconsistent or in conflict with the applicable legal requirements, the obligations as set out in the *Nunavut Agreement*, the *NuPPAA* and other relevant legislation and project-specific guidance govern. Any descriptions of the responsibilities of the parties contained in this Guide are of a general nature only and are not offered or intended as a substitute for legal or other professional advice or the specific direction in any given case of the NIRB or relevant authorities with jurisdiction over a project. The NIRB also reserves the right to modify the general terminology or definitions outlined in this Guide if the specific circumstances of a given assessment process require such changes.

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**Figure 1: Map of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Outer Land Fast Ice Zone**













- b. Manufacturing plant (steel, metal or chemical)
- c. Recycling Depot
- d. Hazardous waste or chemical storage or use
- e. Quarries – the initial development or the expansion of an existing quarry and the disestablishment thereof where the same was not included as part of the initial screening
- f. Explosives storage
- g. Tanneries
- h. Meat and fish production facilities (establishment or change in operation)
- i. Exploration, bulk sampling, mining and all associated mining activities

2. This excludes the following:

- a. All institutional activities
- b. The following commercial activities
- c. Building supply centre
- d. Animal hospital
- e. Custom workshop
- f. Construction equipment yard
- g. Heavy equipment sales and rentals
- h. Automotive commercial garage
- i. Extraction from existing quarries
- j. Home occupations – meaning any occupation, trade, profession, personal service, day care or craft carried on by an occupant of a residential building as a use secondary to the residential use of the building







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# N

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## **Nunavut Settlement Area**

*[Région du Nunavut]*

*[ᓄᓄᓂᓯ ᓱᓕᓕᓕᓴᓂᓯᓱᓱᓴᓂᓯ]*

*[Nunavut Nunataarviup Iluani]*

The Nunavut Settlement area is generally bounded:

- on the west and north by the Inuvialuit Settlement Area;
- on the west and south by the South Slave, North Slave, and the Sahtu Dene and Métis settlement areas;
- on the south by the Manitoba border and the southern boundary of the Nunavut Territory; and
- and on the east and north by the eastern and northern boundaries of the Nunavut Territory.

The Belcher Islands and certain adjacent islands in Hudson Bay are also included in the Nunavut Settlement Area

Please refer to Article 3 in the *Nunavut Agreement* and the associated map in Schedule 3-1 that depicts the Nunavut Settlement Area or refer to [Figure 1](#).

## **Nunavut Agreement**

*[Accord du Nunavut]*

*[ᓄᓄᓂᓯᓴ ᓴᓂᓯᓱᓱᓴ]*

*[Nunavut Angirutinga]*

The land claims agreement signed on May 25, 1993, between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and the Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada, based on and reflecting the following objectives:

- a) to provide for certainty and clarity of rights to ownership and use of lands and resources, and of rights for Inuit to participate in decision-making concerning the use, management and conservation of land, water and resources, including the offshore;













## Responsible Minister

*[Ministre compétent]*

*[ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲ]*

*[Munariyangit Minista]*

Means a Minister of the Government of Canada or a member of the Executive Council appointed as Minister, as the context requires, responsible for the subject matter referred to, and in the case of NIRB assessments, the federal or territorial Minister(s) having jurisdictional responsibility for authorizing a project to proceed.

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## S

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## Screening

*[Examen préalable]*

*[ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲ]*

*[Naunaiyainiq]*

An evaluation of a project proposal conducted to determine if the project has the potential to result in significant ecosystemic or socioeconomic impacts and accordingly, whether it requires review by the Board or by a federal environmental assessment panel, as the case may be [under either Part 5 or 6 of Article 12 of the *Agreement between the Inuit of the Nunavut Settlement Area and Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada (Nunavut Agreement)* and ss. 99-133 of the *NuPPAA*].

## Scoping

*[Détermination de la portée]*

*[ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ ᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲᑲ]*

*[Ilittuqhaiyut]*

A process that begins early in an environmental assessment, involving all affected Parties and that identifies significant issues warranting study and analysis. This activity aims to identify those components of the biophysical and

social environment which may be impacted by the project and for which there is public and/ or professional concern. These components will then become the focus of the ensuing investigations.

As per ss. 86(1) and 99(1) of the *NuPPAA*, the first step in the NIRB's assessment process (both screening and review) is the requirement that the Board determine the scope of the project in relation to the project proposal that was received, as well as the scope of the assessment. The Board must include any work or activity identified in the project proposal, and any other work or activity that it considers sufficiently related to the project. The Board must also exclude any work or activity from the scope that it considers insufficiently related to the project.

## Significance

*[Importance des répercussions]*

*[ᐱᐱᐱᐱᐱ]*

*[Akhuurutauyuq]*

As set out under the *NuPPAA*, when determining the significance of impacts the Board must take the following factors into account:

- (a) the size of the geographic area, including the size of wildlife habitats, likely to be affected by the impacts;
- (b) the ecosystemic sensitivity of that area;
- (c) the historical, cultural and archaeological significance of that area;
- (d) the size of the human and the animal populations likely to be affected by the impacts;
- (e) the nature, magnitude and complexity of the impacts;
- (f) the probability of the impacts occurring;
- (g) the frequency and duration of the impacts;
- (h) the reversibility or irreversibility of the impacts;
- (i) the cumulative impacts that could result from the impacts of the project combined with those of any other project that has been carried out, is being carried out or is likely to be carried out; and





