Building Nunavut Together
Nunavuliuqatigiingniq
Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble
Nunavut

Minister of Environment
Minista at Avatiliqiyitkut
Ministre de l'Environnement

November 3, 2023

Mr. Solomon Malliki
MLA – Aivilik
Chairperson
Committee of the Whole
Legislative Assembly of Nunavut

RE: Clarification of Memorandum of Understanding Negotiations: Visitors Centre, Clyde River

Dear Mr. Malliki;

Thank you for providing me the opportunity to meet with the Committee of the Whole on November 2, 2023, to discuss the Department of Environment's Capital appropriation.

I write this letter to further clarify my comments related to the negotiations with our partners of the Memorandum of Understanding for the building of the Aggutinni Territorial Park's Visitors Centre in Clyde River. I recognize that the response I provided during my appearance did not provide adequate information my colleagues required.

On February 10th, 2020, the Government of Nunavut and the federal government entered into a cost share agreement of $4.7M each for the construction of Aggutinni Park. Our small Capital Budget for 2024-2025 is $1,500,000, of which $40,000 we will allocate to Agguttini for minor park up-keeping projects in 2024-2025.

Mr. Chair, firstly, I want to thank my colleagues for supporting my Department's Capital budget. Secondly, I reiterate my commitment to working towards the successful conclusion of the negotiations with our partners. My officials are going to invest the public funds in the project in the most prudent manner that balances the interests of the Government of Nunavut and those of our partners. We recognize and respect the position of our partners, but our position in the negotiations will be determined by a consideration of the public interest as represented by the Government of Nunavut.

My colleagues wanted to know our position on the negotiations of the Memorandum of Understanding. I did not express a definite position because currently, the negotiations

ᑎᑎᖅᑯᓇᐊ 2410 P.O. Box 2410 Titiqakuvia 2410 C. P. 2410 867-975-5024

ᒥᓂᔅᑕ ᐊᕙᑎᓕᕆᔨᒃᑯᑦᑐᑦ
Minister of Environment
Ministaat Avatiliqiyitkut
Ministre de l'Environnement

are at a critical stage. I was cautious of creating a perception within our partners that by outlining our position in a public forum we were undermining the confidential nature of the negotiations.

Further, I was avoiding creating the perception that we were negotiating in public to apply undue pressure on our partners.

As indicated, Mr. Chair, I will only commit public funds if I believe that the negotiations will provide value for money for the Government of Nunavut.

Nakurmiik,

Daniel Qavvik
Minister of Environment

cc. Members the Committee of the Whole

ᑎᑎᖅᑲᓱᕕᐊ 2410 P.O. Box 2410 Titiqakuvia 2410 C. P. 2410 867-975-5024