






NUNATSIAQ ONLINE

NEWS	THIS WEEK'S ADS
FEATURES	
EDITORIAL	JOBS
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	TENDERS
TAISSUMANI	NOTICES
COMMENTARY	ADVERTISING
NEWS TIPS	
PRIVACY POLICY	RATE CARD/MEDIA KIT
SUBSCRIBE	EMAIL AD DEPARTMENT




[f Connect](#)
[t Twitter](#)






Nunavut Wildlife Management Board
 P.O. Box 1379
 Lot 924 Parnaivik Building
 Iqaluit, Nunavut, X0A 0H0
 Phone: (867) 975-7300
www.nwmb.com



Community Inspector
 Department of Community and Government Services,
 Rankin Inlet, NU

Project Officer
 Department of Community and Government Services,
 Rankin Inlet, NU

[More...](#)

NEWS: Nunavut June 05, 2012 - 11:41 am

Ottawa nixes Nunavut review board chair recommendation

Duncan does not re-appoint Lucassie Arragutainaq

DAVID MURPHY

The chair's position on the Nunavut Impact Review Board — the body that screens and reviews development projects in Nunavut — lies vacant following a decision by Aboriginal Affairs minister John Duncan to reject the re-appointment of incumbent chair Lucassie Arragutainaq.

"It just adds to the ongoing shenanigans with the NIRB and the federal government," said Ramsey Hart, Canada program coordinator at Mining Watch, a non-governmental organization that monitors the behavior of mining companies overseas and in Canada.

The Government of Nunavut, supported by Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., recommended Arragutainaq be reappointed to the chairmanship of NIRB.

Hart believes political motives lie behind the decision not to follow those recommendations.

"The Conservative government, I'm sure, would want someone who toes the party line, and perhaps the existing candidate was too much of an independent thinker," said Hart.

The purpose of the chair's position is to settle decisions when the eight-member board is divided 50-50 on a vote.

According to a NIRB bio, Arragutainaq pushed for more Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit within regulatory decision-making.

He co-authored two books on the topic, and in 2010 received the Nunavut Mining Symposium government organization award on behalf of the NIRB.

The decision not to reappoint Arragutainaq was brought up at the Nunavut legislature May 31, when Baker Lake MLA Moses Aupaluktuq asked Premier Eva Aariak about the GN's position on the issue.

"This is outside of our control as the government of Nunavut," said Aariak. "The Nunavut government did notify the federal government about their own choice."

"We will continue to wait until the process plays itself out," she said.

But it's business as usual at NIRB, the organization's executive director Ryan Barry told *Nunatsiaq News*.

"We are not anticipating that it will affect any of our active work. We have procedures in place when there is no formally appointed chair," said Barry. "The board expressed their disappointment to the federal minister, but also respected it. When it comes right down to it, it is at the minister's discretion to accept or direct the board's nomination for chair person."

NIRB vice-chair Elizabeth Copland is acting chair for the time being, until a new chair is appointed—which could be sooner than later.

"We're hoping at the next board meeting at the end of June, and they were hoping that might [give] the minister enough time to fill the remaining vacancies on the board," said Barry.

Areva Resources Canada Inc.— the company spearheading the Kiggavik uranium mine project — doesn't know why the NIRB chairperson was not reappointed either.

"[I] didn't know him well, met him several times. I have no idea what happened at the board meetings that considered our project. That hasn't been made public, that I'm aware of," said Areva's manager of Nunavut affairs, Barry McCallum.

"It's not up to us to decide who will oversee the board meetings that consider our project," said McCallum. "We submitted our proposal to the Nunavut Impact Review Board. They are going through their well established process now to review the project."

SHARE COMMENT ON THIS STORY

(6) Comments:

#1. Posted by M.O. on June 05, 2012

Can we get a do over on the negotiations of the NLCA? That would be great

#2. Posted by Check The Math on June 05, 2012

Be careful what you wish for, 33,000,000 Canadians vs. 33,000 Inuit, that 1,000 to 1.

And how many of those 1,000 have ever been north of 60 or have ever seen a caribou or seal outside a zoo?

#3. Posted by Alinsky on June 05, 2012

Didn't all those who voted for Leona realize they were voting for Harper too?

I find it interesting that no one will admit to voting conservative last time.

It is clear that Harper and his party puppets want to get everyone off the organizations, appointments, boards and other positions who think for themselves, who can question, who can't be bought off.

This is patronage at it's worse - they pick only those who support their party and slavishly follow your message.

Are we voting for Harper through Leona again, next time or have we had enough?

#4. Posted by M.O. on June 06, 2012

The math is easy (these numbers should be adjusted to be Inuit population in the NLCA area (about 26,000 today)/Canada population, but for simplicity's sake I'll use your stat, which is total population)

0.0935% of Canada's 2011 population lived in Nunavut
0.0627% of Canada's 1981 population lived in (what would be) Nunavut

And the percentage of Inuit minds, never mind the sheer number, from Nunavut that I'd trust to negotiate for us is much higher today. But the federal government got too plum a deal, they'll never renegotiate. Even when enough Inuit realize we were fleeced.

#5. Posted by Couple forgotten variables to the equation on June 06, 2012

Oh, don't forget a couple variables like Canadians sponsored the following: dog slaughter, involuntary 1950's sovereignty participation, giving E-numbers instead of names, and today, continued ineffective policy/program expenditures b/c they don't work...now let me see...I think that changes things and gives the edge to INUIT. The Feds are going down a dark path by rejecting this NIRB renewal. Things are going to become distasteful very quickly if the Feds keep this up. This time, they will be dealing with a less-tolerant Inuit negotiators

#6. Posted by chesley mesher on June 06, 2012

The BlackOut/SpeakOut of so many websites led by Elizabeth May and her Green Party was most effective in demonstrating the opposition to the workings of government/corporate wishes. Effectively power has been taken from the people by the Robber Barons, the new Carpetbaggers. The government's legislation favoring them has to be stalled and opposed at every turn. Bravo Montreal. This failure to protect the interests of the people with the non appointment is but another example from our dear government.

Request for Proposals Health, Safety and Environmental Department RFP No. 201206 - Waste Removal - 25 Power Plants, Nunavut - This proposal call will close: 2:00 P.M. Eastern Time, Iqaluit, NU June 26, 2012

Summer/Term Employment Opportunity June - September 7, 2012 The Coalition of Nunavut District Education Authorities (CNDEA) has a summer employment opportunity for an individual with previous research and administrative experience.

Iqaluit Housing Authority Employment Opportunity Manager We have an immediate opening for a dynamic Manager, reporting to the Board of Directors. Duties include the management and direction of 19-23 administration and maintenance staff to provide property management services and the delivery of the Public Housing program for approximately 500 units.

Your Email:
Your Name:
Remember my personal information
Your Location:
Your comment:

