



Sahtu Land and Water Board

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May 30, 2018

File : S17L8-002

Stanley Yee, M.Sc.
Project Officer / Contaminants & Remediation Division
Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada
Northwest Territories Region
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Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2R3

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Dear Mr. Yee,

Great Bear Lake Sites Quality Assurance & Quality Control Plan v. 2 Confirmation of Conformity with Board direction– Plan Approved as submitted

The Sahtu Land and Water Board (SLWB) met on October 30, 2017 to consider Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada – Contaminant and Remediation Divisions' (INAC-CARD) Quality Assurance and Quality Control Plan for the Great Bear Lake Sites Remediation Project (the QA/QC Plan) which was received on August 11, 2017 to fulfill Part A, item 6 of Annex A (Surveillance Network Program, SNP) of Licence S17L8-002. At that time, the Board approved the QA/QC Plan on an interim basis and required an update to the Plan be submitted by April 30, 2018. The Board directed INAC-CARD to incorporate reporting requirements into the revised plan and to include detection limits for the parameters to be tested when the laboratory performing analyses had been selected.

The revised [Great Bear Lake Sites Quality Assurance and Quality Control Plan](#) (version 2.0) was received by the Board on April 30, 2018. Board staff have reviewed the Plan with the Board's requirements and direction. The revised Plan includes reporting requirements and Laboratory accreditation for three laboratories. The Plan does not yet include detection limits for any of the three CALA accredited laboratories in Yellowknife that may undertake the analyses of samples, as the laboratory used may change over the duration of the project and detection limits can evolve over time and INAC-CARD has not yet selected the Laboratory to be undertake the analyses. The Plan notes that when the Board is updated annually regarding which lab will be used, this will include the methods with associated detection limits.

The test methods applied by the laboratories vary for some of the parameters so the Board considered the need for inter-lab comparison for at least those parameters. CALA does not specify any particular test methods that a Laboratory must use to become accredited. The Laboratory must decide the

appropriate test methods to use based on client and regulatory needs. As part of CALA accreditation, all must meet rigorous conformance to standard methods of analysis and complete ongoing proficiency testing including interlab comparisons. The Board is satisfied that the use of CALA certified laboratories will ensure that the labs are obtaining acceptable results through the proficiency testing CALA performs for the methodology they propose.

The Board has confirmed concordance with Board direction. This letter hereby confirms that version 2.0 of the QA/QC Plan satisfies the Board's direction in the [October 30, 2017 Issuance Letter](#), and the revised Plan is considered approved as submitted and has been filed on the Public Registry.

The full cooperation of INAC-CARD is anticipated and appreciated. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Bonnie Bergsma at (867) 496-2778 or email bonnie.bergsma@slwb.com.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Di Pizzo', with a large, stylized initial 'P'.

Philippe Di Pizzo
A/Chair Sahtu Land and Water Board

Copied to: Claire Brown claire.brown@dxbprojects.ca
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