



Mr. Shin Shiga
Manager, Environment
North Slave Métis Alliance
PO BOX 2301
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P7

MAY 12 2017

Dear Mr. Shiga:

TASR EA1617-01 North Slave Métis Alliance Request for Funding

I am writing in response to your letter of May 1st, 2017 regarding funding for the Th̄chq All-Season Road Project (Project) Environmental Assessment (EA).

The Department of Infrastructure (INF) is pleased to inform you that funding in the amount of \$40,000 will be made available for the North Slave Métis Alliance (NSMA) to conduct a Traditional Knowledge (TK) study. The results of this work should support your participation in the EA and help inform the Review Board and other parties throughout the EA process.

In regards to your other request, although direct participant funding is not available for the Project, the Government of the Northwest Territories does administer Interim Resource Management Assistance (IRMA) funding. This funding is intended to help Aboriginal groups in unsettled claim areas participate in land and resource management activities affecting their land use areas; this would include environmental assessments.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has informed me that NSMA has applied for Resource Pressures Funding, and that decisions on the level of funding to be provided to the NSMA will be made shortly following the May 26, 2017 application deadline.

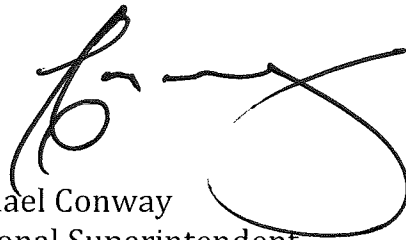
However, considering current timeframes associated with the ongoing EA, specifically the upcoming May 29th deadline for Information Requests, INF will allow the NSMA to utilize the funds dedicated to the TK study in any way it sees fit in order to ensure the full participation of the NSMA in the EA process. If IRMA funds are ultimately received by the NSMA to support their participation in the Project,

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any INF money spent that was not in relation to the TK study should be replaced by that funding. If IRMA funds are not received, INF commits to re-evaluating the NSMA's original request.

INF's contribution for the TK study is granted under the stipulation that the NSMA should adhere to the Review Board's timelines and should not create any unnecessary delays with the EA process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Conway', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Conway
Regional Superintendent
North Slave Region
Department of Infrastructure

- c. Mark Cliffe-Phillips
Executive Director, MVEIRB