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 Building Nunavut Together  
 Nunavut iluqaqingniq  
 Bâtir le Nunavut ensemble

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 Office of Premier Peter Taptuna  
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The Honourable Brian Pallister  
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August 10, 2017

Dear Premier Pallister,

It was good to see you in Edmonton earlier for our annual Conference of the Council of Federation meetings.

I'm writing to update you as I committed during our meeting, on the Proposed Winter Road between Nunavut and Manitoba. As we discussed, (The Government of Nunavut) submitted a proposal to the Federal Government under the Building Canada Fund in 2014 to partner on this project. The project would for the first time provide a transportation link by winter road between the Kivalliq region of Nunavut and Northern Manitoba. With the change in governments in Ottawa, the corresponding funding envelope for the project has also changed and thus the resubmission to (Government of Canada) GoC for funding (75% GoC, 25% GN) of the total project costs.

As originally envisioned the winter road would terminate in the vicinity of Churchill and connect to Winnipeg via the rail line to Winnipeg. Conversely, there has been some discussion of having the road terminate near Tadolou Lake and connect to the existing Manitoba winter road network.

With the recent issues in Churchill and the railway line, Tadolou Lake or another neighbouring community may be a better terminus for the winter road. The winter road would be a boon to your Northern Economy. It would help facilitate the growing commerce between Winnipeg and our Kivalliq region. It will provide the only transportation corridor from Nunavut to the rest of Canada and it will create seasonal employment and business opportunities for business and Northerners in Manitoba and Nunavut.

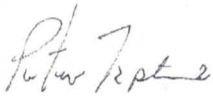
It is suggested that if the winter road project is proven feasible, then an all-weather road could be logically seen at some point as the next step. The road would benefit both Nunavut and Manitoba. Support for the project from the regional organizations in Northern Manitoba as well as the town of Churchill has been strong.

As discussed, the support of the Government of Manitoba is essential in securing a commitment from the Federal Government to move the project forward.

There already has been a tremendous amount of logistic as well as administrative and financial work/details that have been completed and continually being updated for this project by the Government of Nunavut and through Manitoba's involvement with the Hudson's Bay Roundtable (HBRT).

I respectfully ask that to ensure the expedient and thorough review by the federal government, a letter of support to my office from you on the Winter Road project would be most invaluable and welcomed.

Sincerely,



Peter Taptuna  
Premier of Nunavut

CC: Executive Council,  
Hon. Joe Savikataaq, MLA Arviat South  
Hon. George Kuksuk, MLA Arviat North/Whale Cove  
Tom Sammurtok, MLA Rankin Inlet North/Chesterfield Inlet  
Alex Sammurtok, MLA Rankin Inlet South  
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