



Terrestrial Environmental Working Group (TEWG) Meeting – November 19, 2025

Meeting ID: T-11192025
Group / Organization: TEWG Members and Observers, Baffinland and Consultants
Meeting Location: Virtual – ZOOM
Meeting Chair: Cortney Oliver

Organization Name	Participants
Member Organization	
Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization (MHTO)	Elisha Kasarnak (EK)
Clyde River (Nangmautuaq) Hunters and Trappers Organization (NHTO)	None
Igloodik Hunters and Trappers Organization (IHTO)	Seemee Qamaniq (SQ)
Hall Beach (Sanirajak) Hunters and Trappers Organization (HB HTA)	Laimiki Ulluapak (LU)
Arctic Bay (Ikajutit) Hunters and Trappers Organization (IHTA)	Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (QO)
Baffinland Iron Mines Corporation (Baffinland)	Cortney Oliver [CO] Jesse Manufor [JM] Todd Swenson (TS) Andrea Trischuk (AT) Tarek Ghadieh (TG) Brad Rasmussen (BR) Angela Bischof (AB) Paige Glenen (PG) William Bowden (WB)
Interpreters/Translators	Gela Naqica (GN) and Rhoda Katsak (RK)
Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Jessica Kassar (JK) Paul Smith (PS) Jennifer Sabourin (JS) Robert Nissen (RN)
Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA) and Consultants	Richard Nesbitt [RN] Chris Wagner (CW) Amoudla Kootoo (AK) Bruce Stewart (BS)* Andrew Jaworenko (AJ)* Jeff Higdon (JH)* Stephanie Chan (SC)* <small>*QIA representatives were requested to leave the meeting in order to meet threshold for number of representatives.</small>
Government of Nunavut (GN)	Jessica Waldinger (JW)

Organization Name	Participants
Environmental Dynamics Incorporated (EDI)	Mike Settington (MS) Patrick Audet (PA) Christina Tennant (CT) Lyndsay Doetzel (LD)
Nunavut Impact Review Board (NIRB)	Absent
Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	Clarisse Fiset (CF)
Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor)	Aminul Haque (AH)
World Wildlife Fund (WWF)	Devin Holterman (DH)

AGENDA – NOVEMBER 19TH, 2025

Time	Agenda Item	Lead	Materials	Purpose
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome and Roll Call	C. Oliver	N/A	N/A
10:30 – 11:00	Review Minutes and Action Items	J. Manufor	Minutes Action Log	For Approval For Information
11:00 – 12:00	Overview of Terrestrial Environment Monitoring Work completed in 2025 Q & A	Patrick Audet (EDI)	Presentation	For Discussion
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch			
1:00 – 1:45	Baffinland Dust Mitigations Q & A	K. Babin	Presentation	For Discussion
1:45 – 2:45	Preliminary Satellite Dustfall Imagery Analysis Q & A	C. Tennant (EDI)	Memo	For Discussion
2:45 – 3:30	Monitoring Plans for 2026 Q & A	C. Oliver		For Discussion
3:30 – 3:45	Summary and Meeting Wrap-up	C. Oliver	N/A	N/A

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Action ID	Responsibility	Item Description	Due date	Status
		TEWG Action Items		
T-13012025-01	BIM/EDI	To continue to refine the definitions of deflection for the Mary River project in the next TEWG agenda.	Not stated	In progress
T-13012025-02	BIM/EDI	Baffinland / EDI also committed to reviewing how to differentiate between the terms 'deflect' and 'delay' when speaking to caribou movement	Not stated	In progress
T- 13012025 -04	GN	GN (Krista Shofstall) to provide Baffinland with the GN's opinions on the definition of <i>deflection</i> . If not, Baffinland will gather the GN's position based on the meeting minutes	Not stated	Completed – GN shared this to the TEWG on Jan 15 th , 2025.
T- 14012025 -02	BIM	BIM to provide update on Tote Road sediment trap pilot study when data is available.	When data is available	Completed , shared in NIRB intervenor process
T-14012025 -04	NRCan	NRCan to follow up with the QIA on if there is a maximum wind speed of which beyond, the Pas-DDs can no longer effectively collect data.	Not Stated	
T-10072025-1	BIM	BIM/EDI to discuss and review the operational feasibility of conducting follow-up observations of caribou on the Tote Road, including collecting additional information on number and behaviour.		In progress: Baffinland is currently reviewing the feasibility of providing heat map of caribou observations in the 2025 NIRB Annual Report. This update was reported in T-11192025
T-10072025-1	BIM	Bird mortality from building collision, update mitigation measure.		In progress: Baffinland is reviewing the installation of window decals on buildings. This update was reported in T-11192025
T-10072025-1	EDI/BIM	EDI to continue to work with Kivalliq Inuit Association consultant on the work of redefining caribou deflections	When available	In progress
T-11192025-1	EDI	EDI to provide the details about the wildlife camera specifications, including timing between pictures and trigger distances.	Include in the 2026 annual report.	In progress
T-11192025-2	BIM/EDI	To circulate the revegetation pilot studies report	Include in the 2026 Annual report	In progress

T-11192025-3	BIM	Baffinland to organise a meeting with the HTOs on the Independent Chair Process in advance of the January virtual meeting to ensure Boards are set-up to vote on a Chair.	Completed	A meeting was held with the HTOs on Dec 2 nd .
T-11192025-4	BIM	Baffinland to organise a TEWG and MEWG meeting to meet with the Independent Chair candidates.	2 nd week in January, 2026	Completed. Meeting held on January 13th, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

1. Overview of Terrestrial Environment Monitoring Work Completed in 2025 – Patrick Audet (EDI)

Patrick Audet (EDI) presented an overview of the 2025 Terrestrial Environment Monitoring Program, which has been ongoing since 2012 and provides long-term information on environmental conditions and potential project interactions. The 2025 field program included a height of land survey conducted between May and June, soil and lichen metals monitoring in July, and reconnaissance surveys along the Steensby Rail Corridor in August. These activities are intended to track baseline conditions, identify changes over time, and support adaptive management and mitigation measures. The presentation also included updates on reclamation plot trials established in 2019 and 2021.

Wildlife monitoring remains a key component of the program, with a particular focus on caribou. In 2025, wildlife observations were conducted at 24 Height of Land (HOL) locations during the calving period, with two 40-minute observation sessions completed at each site from elevated vantage points. In addition, wildlife cameras were maintained at six HOL locations, with two cameras per site providing continuous, year-round monitoring. Soil and lichen samples were also collected in July around the mine site, Milne Port, and the Tote Road during the green-up period to assess metal concentrations and potential exposure pathways for wildlife and people. Patrick noted that, based on more than a decade of monitoring, metal concentrations in soils and lichen have consistently remained very low and within safe levels for both wildlife and human use.

Reconnaissance surveys were also completed along the first 40 km of the Steensby rail corridor. These surveys were conducted in August 2025 and the focus was on verifying soil, vegetation, and wildlife indicators. The intent was to revisit some of the locations of the original baseline surveys to collect data to inform mitigations and future monitoring during construction of the Steensby rail corridor. The survey team included Inuit participants and EDI staff. The methods that were applied are consistent with the previous methods employed. Patrick noted that they are currently analyzing the soil and vegetation and comparing them against the baseline conditions. Patrick noted that aerial sweeps of the Project area were completed to support the wildlife observations from the ground, as these survey locations were only accessible via helicopter. The wildlife indicators observed included old weathered antlers, scat, and signs of wildlife use along trails.

Reclamation monitoring focused on three trial sites located near kilometre markers 16, 18, and 52, selected to represent a range of soil and surface conditions and to allow for repeated access and monitoring. The trials consist of long, narrow test strips designed to reset site conditions to “time zero” and evaluate practical reclamation techniques in a remote Arctic environment, including surface roughening methods adapted to protect permafrost. Despite harsh environmental conditions and the absence of seeding or planting, natural revegetation has been slowly occurring. Monitoring results from 2021 to 2025 show gradual vegetation recovery and early ecological succession at all sites, even in areas close to roads. Findings from the 2025 program will be reported in the Terrestrial Environment Annual Monitoring Report and associated reclamation reports.

Questions and Comments

Seemee Qamaniq (IHTO) asked about water quality sampling of runoff from the Tote Road and whether rail crossings follow caribou trails. **Response:** William Bowden (BIM) explained that Baffinland's freshwater monitoring program upstream and downstream of the Tote Road is extensive and shows no increases in total suspended solids or metals. Mike Settington (EDI) added that caribou trails are mapped and wildlife crossings will be constructed where needed.

Jessica Waldinger (GN) asked for more details on the HOL survey effort, for instance how many were completed. Her second question was on the wildlife camera timing between pictures and trigger distances. **Response:** Patrick Audet (EDI) confirmed that two rounds of surveys are completed at each HOL point and that the HOL methodologies have been consistent and are documented in the Terrestrial Environment Annual Monitoring Report (TEAMR) and Terrestrial Environment Mitigation and Management Plan (TEMMP). On the second question, camera specifications will be included in the 2025 report (**Action: T-11192025-1**).

Chris Wagner (QIA) asked about the number of reviewers working on analysing the camera trap images. **Response:** Patrick (EDI) explained that the review protocols are summarized in the TEAMR and that images are reviewed by two biologists. Chris Wagner (QIA) further asked about the number of caribou observed during the HOL program in 2025. **Response:** Patrick (EDI) responded that analysis is still ongoing, but there is an increase in caribou interacting in proximity to the project.

Jessica Kassar (ECCC) asked if the same survey efforts for HOL is applied for the survey conducted for the Steensby rail corridor. **Response:** Patrick Audet (EDI) clarified that the HOL program is for northern operations, and the survey along Steensby rail corridor is a different set of survey with a different intent. The Steensby survey is to conduct wildlife sweeps, document potential wildlife utilisation, areas with potential wildlife habitat. The intent is to confirm and verify ground conditions with respect to baseline conditions. There is no annual frequency to the survey, it is to inform construction and mitigation along Steensby rail corridor.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) asked whether metal uptake in lichen could be evaluated across distance zones, and since different species lichens uptake metals in varying rates, is this influencing measurement? **Response:** Patrick Audet (EDI) explained that long-term monitoring suggests the risk level does not warrant additional research at this time. He further explained that lichen species are collected for varying reasons such as – there abundance at site, potential as a food source and based on literature on indicator values, metal uptake concentrations that could be used to assess risk.

Richard Nesbit (QIA) asked if the revegetation trails have been successful at minimizing erosion. **Response:** Patrick Audet (EDI) replied that EDI has been studying these sites since 2019, and that the site does not interact with any water crossings. This study is in the high arctic and the purpose is to understand what happens when the soil is disturbed.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) asked if any effort has been made to progress active dustfall monitoring along the Tote Road. **Response:** William Bowden (BIM) responded that, Baffinland is in the process of installing and upgrading its particulate and emissions sampling at the Port and Mine at the project development boundary currently as required by project certificate. However, it is not possible to install on the Tote Road due to access and power. We are trialling passive monitoring for emissions associated with vehicles to support our monitoring program.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) further asked for an update on the sediment trap pilot programs run near CV-099 in 2023 and 2024 to evaluate whether rubber from vehicles along the tote road were influencing the environment, terrestrial or aquatic. **Response:** William Bowden (BIM) confirmed results were submitted to QIA through NIRB intervenor comments. Baffinland considers this on-going request from QIA closed.

Qaumayuq Qyukuluk (IHTA) asked about caribou behaviour around the road and camera placements. **Response:** Patrick Audet (EDI) responded that this information will be included in the 2025 TEAMR.

Chris Wagner (QIA) stated that QIA submitted a request to Baffinland to create a written description of the methodology used in the surveys including details of how the reconnaissance surveys differ from the FEIS surveys. Will Baffinland be completing this? His second question was that during the 2025 monitoring surveys were there any statistically significant increases in lichen-metal concentrations relative to the baseline levels at monitoring location? If so, were these increases at monitoring locations that had shown increases in previous years? **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) responded that the written description of the methodology will be included in the 2025 reporting. On the second question, results are still being analyzed as Patrick Audet (EDI) pointed out and that will be included in the 2025 reporting. Chris Wagner (QIA) further asked if the Steensby reconnaissance survey will be undertaken during summer of 2026 and how will Baffinland get insight from the TEWG in advance of that survey. Cortney Oliver (BIM) stated that while insights are needed from the TEWG, the reconnaissance survey is to inform construction and future mitigations. She asked that if QIA has additional feedback, they should provide it to Baffinland.

Paul Smith (ECCC) requested the detailed revegetation trials report. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) the report will be included in the 2025 Annual Report (**Action: T-11192025-2**).

2. Dust Monitoring & Mitigation Measures – Tarek Ghadieh (BIM)

Tarek Ghadieh (BIM), speaking from the Mary River Mine site, presented an overview of Baffinland's dust monitoring and mitigation program, noting that the 2025 program builds on and expands the work completed in 2024. Ongoing dustfall monitoring uses passive dustfall stations distributed across the project development area, as well as buffer and reference locations, with sampling conducted year-round where access allows. Ambient air quality monitoring continued at Mary River and Milne Port using on-site instrumentation to measure particulate matter and vehicle-related emissions. Additional environmental monitoring included sediment sampling in nearby lakes and rivers, installation of sediment traps adjacent to the mine site to assess potential aquatic effects, vegetation monitoring for metals and chemicals, and collaboration with Natural Resources Canada on dustfall sampling, snow sampling, and satellite imagery analysis.

Tarek also provided an update on dust mitigation measures implemented in 2025, including the use of a dust suppression product applied at crusher pads. Application systems were installed at two crushers in late 2024 and early 2025. In addition to reducing dust generation, the product was found to improve operational efficiency by reducing material buildup on crusher screens, haul trucks, and stockpiles, including issues related to freezing. Baffinland intends to continue using and optimizing this dust suppression approach to ensure effective application. Review of 2024 monitoring data showed a reduction in both the horizontal extent and overall magnitude of dustfall at the Mary River Mine site.

The presentation also covered lessons learned from trialing additional monitoring technologies, including PurpleAir sensors, which were used for operational awareness rather than regulatory dustfall monitoring due to limitations such as poor performance in extreme cold, reliance on power and connectivity, and lack of certification. These devices will be selectively used only as needed going forward. Baffinland is updating its Air Quality and Noise Abatement Management Plan (AQNAMP) to support future development, with input from the Dustfall Audit Committee. New monitoring infrastructure is being trialed in 2025–2026, including fence-line ambient air quality systems installed at Mary River and Milne Port, and new passive air sampling systems (PASS) and Aeroqual AQS-1 that require no power. These systems are intended to improve long-term dust and air quality monitoring, including along the Steensby Rail Corridor.

Questions and Comments

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (IHTA) asked there is monitoring conducted for mammals or fish in the waters near Port or Milne Inlet. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) explained that Baffinland has a program called the Marine Environmental Effects Monitoring Program that looks at Fish health, water quality, sediment, benthic, including studies on the lakes - Tuugat, Iqaluit, and Qurluktuk for fresh water fish health.

Robert Nissen (ECCC) asked whether the PurpleAir monitors have a temperature threshold for malfunction. **Response:** Tarek Ghadieh (BIM) explained that cold temperatures, battery limitations, and moisture buildup affect data quality.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) asked what the confidence intervals were for the graph shown on the data review slide. **Response:** Tarek Ghadieh (BIM) noted that they would get back to QIA on this and the information presented is in the most recent 2024 TEAMR. Richard Nesbitt (QIA) further stated that based on the graph it appears that with the consistent ore tonnage hauled the 2024 levels seem to be in line with the 2018 and 2020 levels. Has there been a noticeable effect of DusTreat on the recorded dust levels or have the dust levels consistent with previous years (i.e. 2018 and 2020) reasserted themselves? **Response:** Tarek Ghadieh (BIM) noted that he would circle back once he has more data to determine the inter annual variability. He further explained that DusTreat at the crusher was implemented starting in November, 2024 at the first crusher and the data on the graphs in the presentation only encompasses 2024 and not the most recent result. He further said that DusTreat is applied seasonally or when conditions allow.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) asked that since the effects of DusTreat do not appear to be well pronounced is BIM considering to increase the application of DusTreat? Richard explained he was asking this in particular due to the on-going trend at DFP05, and DFP04 where dust levels appear to be increasing. **Response:** William Bowden (BIM) clarified that dust monitoring is a dynamic program, and this year Baffinland has increased application of dust suppressant at the two crushers. When we have achieved stable suppressant

application over a number of years, we will be able to more accurately evaluate whether or not the suppressants are having a significant impact on dust mitigation measures.

Richard Nesbitt (QIA) further asked if Baffinland plans to evaluate chemical constituents of particulate matter to support chemical tracing and source. **Response:** William Bowden (BIM) responded that Baffinland has done chemical analyses from dustfall monitoring when enough dust captured in the traps and that similar work with NRCAN is ongoing.

3. The Preliminary Satellite Dustfall Imagery Analysis – Christina Tennant (EDI)

Christina Tennant (EDI) presented the preliminary 2025 dustfall imagery analysis, which was initiated in 2020 in response to concerns raised by the Mittimatalik Hunters and Trappers Organization that passive dustfall monitoring did not fully reflect what hunters were observing on the ground, particularly around Milne Inlet. The imagery analysis was developed as a complementary tool to the passive dustfall canister program, expanding monitoring coverage across larger, continuous areas of the landscape. Together, these approaches support compliance with project conditions related to quantifying dustfall extent and magnitude, while providing additional spatial context beyond fixed monitoring locations.

She explained the strengths and limitations of both methods. Passive dustfall canisters provide standardized, year-round monthly measurements that allow comparisons with site operations, but they are limited by detection thresholds, harsh northern conditions, and physical access constraints. In contrast, imagery analysis is limited to late winter (mid-March to mid-May) and captures visible dust on snow at the time of image acquisition. While imagery can show spatial patterns and interannual trends, it cannot distinguish between project-related and natural dust sources, and dust may be misclassified due to exposed ground, bare rock, or bright south-facing slopes. Ground-truthing, snow sampling, and complementary studies by Natural Resources Canada are being used to help address these limitations.

The methodology uses satellite imagery from Sentinel-2 and Landsat 8 and 9, applying a snow darkening index to estimate dust presence across the study area. Preliminary results for 2025 show higher estimated dustfall near project areas, decreasing with distance, consistent with expectations and modeled predictions. Dustfall levels in areas of community concern were generally low ($\leq 1 \text{ g/m}^2$), while the highest estimated levels occurred closer to the project footprint. Christina emphasized that the relationship between imagery-derived estimates and passive dustfall data remains weak and is better suited for identifying spatial patterns rather than precise deposition amounts. Next steps include finalizing the analysis for inclusion in the 2025 Terrestrial Environment Annual Monitoring Report and continuing to refine the program using snow sampling, operational data, and working group feedback.

Questions and Comments

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (IHTA) asked if dust conditions have improved since earlier concerns were raised in 2020. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) confirmed improvements and referenced the Dust Audit Committee's report to the NIRB adding that committee members have observed improvements over the years.

Seemee Qamaniq (IHTO) asked how was the amount of dust measured at areas of community concern?

Response: Christina Tennant (EDI) replied that the amount of dust measured was based on the snow darkening index (SDI), which is based on the SDI value at the passive dustfall canisters and measured in g/m². Seemee Qamaniq (IHTO) further asked how snow samples are collected. **Response:** Todd Swenson (BIM) explained that one set of samples (1 m × 1 m) is used to ground-truth imagery, and another full-depth sample captures entire snow layers.

Paul Smith (ECCC) asked questions on clarification of units g/m² vs g/m²/year; methodology for converting rates; concerns about over and under estimation. He suggested the following:

- Ground-truthing the “dustiest” areas and masking out pixels with high SDI values
- Selecting large, clean reference areas for comparison
- Collecting snow samples directly to calibrate or validate the estimates. He noted that the team may already be planning similar steps.

Response: Christina Tennant (EDI) responded that methodology of the conversions is available in the TEAMR and explained that Passive sampler rates (~30-day samples) are converted to daily dust deposition rates. These rates are then summed over the satellite image period, adjusting for snowfall events using weather data. This produces the g/m² estimates shown in the figures.

She further stated that data improvements are underway as surface snow is being collected to determine if it can provide direct dustfall measurements and NRCan ongoing study is developing some new methods that may help with some of these issues like mixed pixels and bare ground.

4. Monitoring and Management Plan Updates (2026) – Paige Glenen (BIM)

Paige Glenen (BIM) provided an update on the process to revise monitoring and management plans for the Steensby component. Work has begun on updating these plans:

- Terrestrial Environment Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
- Air Quality and Noise Abatement Management Plan
- Adaptive Management Framework
- Steensby Construction Environmental Protection Plan

Baffinland is committed to providing early information and engaging with the communities on the management plan updates in 2026 and will document how Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (IQ) is incorporated into monitoring and management. Updated management plans will be shared with QIA, the TEWG, NIRB, and regulators for review.

Questions and Comments

Jessica Waldinger (GN) while wondering if this was the right forum asked if Baffinland has plans for amendments for deposits 2 and 3. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) replied that perhaps in the future, but there is no timeline for those.

Seemee Qamaniq (Igloodik HTA) asked if local people could have inspector authority as part of the plan.

Response: Cortney Oliver (BIM) replied that while she does not have a definite answer, but Baffinland will be engaging local community members to participate in various aspects of the construction.

Devin Holterman (WWF) asked for clarification on whether MEWG members with observer status will have the opportunity to review the plans. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) replied yes, that they would.

Paul Smith (ECCC) asked whether coastal areas will be in the purview of terrestrial or marine working group. His rationale is that unlike the northern route the south has low sloping shoreline areas that are affected by ship wakes. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) replied that it will depend on the specific topic, but that currently Baffinland has not delineated everything perfectly, but there will be a lot more inclusion of Steensby at both working groups in the future.

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (IHTA) emphasized the importance of early community involvement, noting past concerns that Mary River work had begun quickly without sufficient early consultation. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) acknowledged the concern and explained that Baffinland's Regulatory Affairs team is concurrently consulting with Sanirajak, Igloodik, Kimmirut, and Kinngait on the southern shipping route. She further clarified that there would be opportunity for community involvement and review of management plans.

5. 2026 Terrestrial Monitoring Plans - Collaring Program Update – Cortney Oliver (BIM)

Cortney Oliver (BIM) outlined plans for 2026, noting that the Northern Terrestrial Program will continue with no changes from previous years. Subject to funding and construction planning, baseline data along the full rail line alignment will be revisited or supplemented prior to any disturbance, including additional vegetation surveys and caribou trail assessments beyond the initial 40 km previously surveyed in 2025.

In addition, she informed the TEWG that the Government of Nunavut has secured community support for caribou collaring program in 2026, and that Baffinland is happy to support it. This approach she expressed is intended to address QIA's previous recommendation for pre-construction caribou monitoring and reflects continued collaboration with the Government of Nunavut.

Questions and Comments

Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (IHTA) stated that planning will take time for the Steensby construction and that it's a big undertaking with all of the monitoring that needs to take place before construction. When will the construction start, he asked. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) we do not know at this time. There are many things to be determined. My commitment is to ensure that the terrestrial and marine environment working groups have all the information in advance, so there is lots of time. Like I said, we will be engaging communities in 2026 on the plans.

Seemee Qamaniq (IHTO) asked the Mittimatalik and Ikajutit HTAs present whether they had been informed about the caribou collaring program and what their positions were. Qaumayuq Oyukuluk (IHTA) and Elisha Kasarnak (MHTO) responded that both HTAs have been informed and indicated their support for the collaring program starting in March, but were not yet sure who would be leading it. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) clarified that it will be conducted by the GN regional biologist.

Seemee Qamaniq (IHTA) added that the Igloolik HTA also supports the program but suggested that, instead of the 30 collars proposed by Baffinland, the project should align with the GN's plan to deploy 20 collars. **Response:** Cortney Oliver (BIM) emphasized that this is a collaborative effort between Baffinland and the GN, with both parties obtaining the data they require. The work will also address a previous QIA recommendation to conduct caribou baseline studies before Steensby construction. Cortney Oliver (BIM) noted that the TEWG looks forward to further updates from the GN, who are the lead for this program.

Jessica Waldinger (GN) confirmed that updates on the program will be shared with the TEWG by the Government of Nunavut.

6. Independent Chair Selection Process – Cortney Oliver (BIM)

Cortney Oliver (BIM) informed the group that nominations for the future chair of the working groups are underway and that members have received an information package on the three candidates. Building on interest expressed at the Marine Environment Working Group, she proposed holding a joint virtual meeting where the candidates can present their qualifications and answer questions.

She noted that HTOs/HTAs might require internal board discussions before voting and emphasized the importance of representatives understanding the process so they can report back. Baffinland is organizing a meeting with the HTOs to explain the process (**Action: T-11192025-3**). A virtual meeting with the candidates is tentatively planned for the second week of January, (**Action: T-11192025-4**), after which the group will proceed with questions and voting.

Closing

With no questions asked Cortney Oliver (BIM) thanked all participants and encouraged them to review the candidates in anticipation of the meeting in January, 2026. The meeting was adjourned.