



JUL 18 2019

Dr. Kathleen Racher
Chair
Giant Mine Oversight Board
5014 50th Avenue
PO Box 1602
YELLOWKNIFE NT X1A 2P2

Dear Dr. Racher:

This is in response to your correspondence of April 23, 2019, addressed to the Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, Minister of Intergovernmental and Northern Affairs and Internal Trade, concerning the Giant Mine Oversight Board 2018 Annual Report and recommendations. I am responding on behalf of Minister LeBlanc during his temporary absence.

The report is an important transparency mechanism in the overall management of the Giant Mine Remediation Project. I share the Oversight Board's view that additional important work must be undertaken to ensure the effective remediation of the Giant Mine site in a manner that will ensure benefits to local residents, and I am confident that we share a common goal to enable a successful project. At the same time, we must continue with necessary care and maintenance, fulfilling regulatory obligations (e.g. the water licensing process), supporting the initial stages of the remediation project, and risk-mitigation activities.

Canada shares your opinion that the Giant Mine remediation is an opportunity for significant social and economic benefits. We welcome your ideas and support as the project team continues to work with Indigenous organizations and other stakeholders to maximize Indigenous and northern employment and business opportunities. Maximizing these benefits is a key consideration to the project's implementation approach.

I look forward to getting updates from the Giant Mine project leader, Serge Beaudoin, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Northern Affairs Organization, on future discussions that he and his team will have with you and the Oversight Board on the advancement of the Giant Mine Remediation Project.

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I encourage you to reach out regularly to Mr. Beaudoin and the project team to offer your insight and perspective.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carolyn Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Hon. Carolyn Bennett, M.D., P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Robert McLeod, M.L.A.
Mr. Michael McLeod, M.P.