

Ministre des
Affaires du Nord



Minister of
Northern Affairs

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H4

June 19, 2020

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

Dear Dr. Racher:

Thank you for your correspondence of May 19, 2020, concerning the Giant Mine Oversight Board 2019 Annual Report and recommendations.

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 for 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 the necessary care and maintenance, fulfilling regulatory obligations (e.g. the water licence process), supporting the early works of the Remediation Project, and risk mitigation activities.

I also agree that the remediation of the Giant Mine is an opportunity that holds significant social and economic benefits. We welcome your ideas and support as the Project team continues to work with rights holders, Indigenous organizations, and stakeholders to maximize Indigenous and northern employment and business opportunities. Maximizing these benefits is a key consideration of the Project's socioeconomic implementation plan and approach.

I look forward to receiving updates on this important Project. I've asked Mr. Serge Beaudoin, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Northern Affairs Organization, to keep me informed of future discussions that he and his team have with you and the Oversight Board on the advancement of the Giant Mine Remediation Project.

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

Sincerely,

Original signed by the

Hon. Daniel Vandal, P.C., M.P.

c.c.: The Honourable Shane Thompson, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, N.W.T.

Mr. Michael McLeod, M.P.