



# STATEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **NUNATUKAVUT SAYS PROVINCE OF NL'S LACK OF RESPONSE TO THE INDEPENDENT EXPERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ON MUSKRAT FALLS OUTRAGEOUS**

**HAPPY VALLEY-GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR, December 17, 2018** – NunatuKavut Community Council (NCC) President Todd Russell today issued the following statement:

“NCC is extremely disappointed in the lack of action from the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador on the final and second set of recommendations submitted by the Independent Expert Advisory Committee (IEAC) on the monitoring, management and mitigation of potential methylmercury impacts of the Lower Churchill Project. It was presented to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment in April 2018 and, to date, there has been no response.

NCC has had repeated communication with the Premier, Ministers and departmental officials on the urgency of responding to this very important set of recommendations. And, while we are aware and understand there were various Ministerial changes within the Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment, a seven-month delay is outrageous. The level of expertise and effort that went into the work of the IEAC was considerable and done with much vigour and integrity. The Province should have responded with a similar sense of vigour and integrity but that has not yet happened.

It is imperative that we receive clarity on the steps the Province intends to take in response to the recommendations. We want to see real action that will instill confidence in this process. We want to see tangible measures taken that will ensure protection of the health and well-being of Southern Inuit and all impacted Indigenous and local people for now and for future generations.”

-30-

For regular updates, please visit our website at [www.nunatukavut.ca](http://www.nunatukavut.ca). Please also join in the conversation at [facebook.com/nunatuKavut](https://facebook.com/nunatuKavut) and Twitter [@nunatuKavut](https://twitter.com/nunatuKavut).

**NCC Media Contact:**

Kelly Broomfield  
Director of Communications  
709-280-5965