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NUNATSIAQ

LETTERS: Nunavut May 30, 2012 - 12:39 pm

# Are QIA, NIRB and governments ignoring Pangnirtung? **NUNATSIAQ NEWS**

Peregrine Diamonds held a community consultation meeting recently here in Pangnirtung regarding the Chidliak, Qilak and Cumberland projects that are being planned.

The organizations and government agencies that had known about these projects do not seem to have any interest in hearing community concerns that have been brought forward a number of times.

We had invited QIA, NTI, INAC, DFO and the Government of Nunavut departments of Environment and CLEY. We also invited NIRB but were told they would visit the community some other time.

These organizations have done very little to inform the community about procedures and regulations and have not asked community members of what they think of the projects.

These organizations and agencies were invited way in advance by community members and responded, but never showed up.

It is clear that there is a major communication gap between the organizations and the unilingual Inuit, who have no way of knowing who to contact and who don't understand the processes once these projects get underway.

The Inuit who are unilingual speakers are being taken advantage of, because they don't often understand who they should contact to voice their concerns on their own.

QIA president Okalik Eegeesiak was very public on the radio after she got elected that she would come to Pangnirtung and be part of the consultation, but she never showed up and never followed up on her word.

We won't mention the organization's name but one has admitted that they do have a communication problem with unilingual Inuit when Inuit should be provided with the right information and be part of decision-making.

When Peregrine Diamonds come to Pangnirtung for community consultation, we should not have to remind these organizations to take part in the consultation as they stated they would.

We voluntarily have been working to provide the missing communication gap between organizations. agencies and unilingual speaking Inuit when these organizations and agencies who get paid to do their jobs are not providing it.

A lot of us have concerns because as soon as the land is destroyed it is going to affect our traditional harvesting grounds.

**Andrew Nakashuk** Levi Ishulutak **Pangnirtung** 

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## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## Nunavut Geographic Names Program

Department of Culture, Language, Elders and Youth (Department of Culture and Heritage)

Notice of Proposed New Place Names and Changes of Official Names near Cambridge Bay, Nunavut.

Kitikmeot Heritage Society P.O. Box 2160 Cambridge Bay, Nunavut X0B 0C0 Tel: (867) 983-3009 Fax: (867) 983-339 Applicant(s):



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### #1. Posted by Eva on May 30, 2012

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