$V_{c}U_{c}$ POCCOC DOGOL

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brLSc Kimmirut

<°050)56 Pangnirtung

LcUrc-Pond Inlet

SPPSBCSYDSB Qikiqtarjuaq

4PC2Q204P Resolute Bay

50-P 2096 Sanikiluag May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

Re: inshore Fishery Development in the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut

To Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC):

On behalf of the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), I am pleased to provide a letter of support for the Skills and Partnership Fund (SPF) application, "Inshore Fishery Development in the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut" being submitted by the Qikiqtaaluk Corporation (QC).

QIA is the Regional Inuit Association for the Qikiqtani Region of Nunavut, representing 51 per cent of Inuit living in the territory located in the Canadian Arctic. QIA is a Designated Inuit Organization under the Nunavut Agreement and is one of three Regional Inuit Associations affiliated with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. QC is wholly owned by QIA as the Inuit birthright corporation for the Qikiqtani region.

QIA feels this application and the subsequent programming are critically important to the continued expansion of meaningful partnerships as it relates to our current food security efforts on food sovereignty and security and a Food First Model. QIA strongly supports QC and its initiative to partner with a variety of organizations in the related field like Kakivak Association, Future Skill Canada, ED&T, SmartIce/Pinnguaq, Training Works, Coastlines Ocean Education Initiatives Inc., and local Hunters and Trappers Organizations to enhance their ability to provide a well-rounded plan to implement this initiative.

The implementation plan will address the human resource requirement needed to successfully implement inshore fisheries in the Qikiqtani Region, to be achieved over the course of the next five years. This will include identifying and attracting young Inuit to a wide range of opportunities related to the fisheries industry.

QIA understands that this work is important for the diversity of the Inuit labour market in the Qikiqtani Region, and is especially excited about the prospect of it reaching all 13 Qikiqtani communities. We look forward to the successful development of this project.

Regards,



Olayuk Akesuk President