



**NUNATUKAVUT COMMUNITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO: 2024.01.16.02**

Subject: Mandate to secure NunatuKavut Inuit rights and recognition in Akami-Uapshk-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve

WHEREAS NunatuKavut Inuit assert Aboriginal Title, and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in NunatuKavut;

AND WHEREAS NunatuKavut encompasses the Akami-Uapshk-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve ("Mealy Mountains National Park"), which has sustained NunatuKavut Inuit for hundreds of years, and continues to do so today;

AND WHEREAS NunatuKavut Community Council entered into a Shared Understanding Agreement ("SUA") with Parks Canada in 2015, which recognizes, among other things, that the Mealy Mountains National Park is a part of NunatuKavut.

AND WHEREAS the SUA allows for NunatuKavut Inuit to carry on traditional activities in the Park;

AND WHEREAS this provision is an "*interim measure*" while other Section 35 rights recognition processes, such as the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self Determination ("RIRSD") process, continue, and is not exhaustive;

AND WHEREAS Bill S-14 "*Protecting Canada's Natural Wonders Act*" seeks to amend the *Canada National Parks Act* to establish the Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve of Canada, and provides for "traditional land users" to carry on traditional activities within the Park;

AND WHEREAS Bill S-14 was unfairly and unjustly amended by the Senate of Canada to remove NunatuKavut Inuit from the definition of "traditional land user";

AND WHEREAS Bill S-14 will be proceeding legislatively to the House of Commons for consideration in due course;

AND WHEREAS NunatuKavut Community Council ("NCC") is the representative governing body for the Inuit of NunatuKavut, which means 'Our Ancient Land';

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT NCC will call upon the Government of Canada to act in accordance with the Honour of the Crown and ensure that Bill S-14, and any future legislation,

adheres to the SUA between NCC and Parks Canada with respect to the Mealy Mountains National Park;

AND FURTHER THAT NCC take all necessary steps to seek amendments to Bill S-14 such that NunatuKavut Inuit are included in the definition of “traditional land user”.

Moved by: Jim Holwell, Vice-President

Seconded By: Boyce Turnbull, Member at Large