

27 March 2015

Mr Blake Richards, MP
Chair Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. Richards:

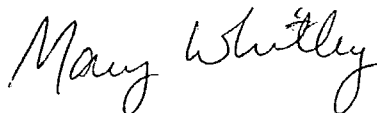
RE: Proposed amendments to the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act (YESAA) through Bill S-6: An Act to amend the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act and Nunavut Waters and Nunavut Surface Rights Tribunal Act.

The amendments proposed to Bill S-6 are unconstitutional. The Act itself was a requirement of the Land Claims agreements agreed to by three parties: the Government of Canada, the Government of the Yukon and the First Nations of the Yukon. Therefore, agreement by those same parties is required for any changes to the Act.

Since that is a requirement of changes to the YESAA legislation, then the proposed amendments, #34, 2, 21 and 23(2) and portions of #16 and 17 referring to time limitations, and #14, do not meet the criterion of agreement by all three parties.

I request that your committee delete these provisions from the proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Whitley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Mary Whitley