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Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0G2

December 2, 2008

Amy Thompson
Gwich'in Council International
P.O. Box 3106
Inuvik, NT
X0G 0T0

Dear Ms. Thompson,

On behalf of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada and the Canadian Arctic Council Advisory Committee, I am pleased to advise you of your appointment as a youth Intern from Canada for participation in Arctic Council meetings.

The Arctic Council is a consensus-based, high level intergovernmental forum which provides a mechanism to address the common concerns and challenges faced by Arctic governments and the people of the Arctic. It was established in Ottawa in 1996 and is comprised of eight member states: including Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, the Russian Federation, Sweden and the United States.

The Arctic Council also provides for the permanent and direct participation of six international Indigenous Peoples organizations (or Permanent Participants) which include the Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC), the Aleut International Association (AIA), the Gwich'in Council International (GCI), the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) and the Saami Council.

The Arctic Council Advisory Committee provides Canada's Senior Arctic Official(s) with a forum for advice and consultation on policy development and co-ordination concerning Arctic Council issues, complementing the work of the Arctic Council Core Group. It provides a mechanism for dialogue between Permanent Participants, territorial governments and federal representatives on Arctic Council issues, with a view to identifying areas of common interest and action. The Arctic Council Advisory Committee promotes greater awareness of Arctic Council issues among the participants' respective institutions and members.

As an Arctic Council Intern, you will be expected to be an advocate of circumpolar issues within your community and region. Your specific responsibilities will include: attending an orientation, participating in Arctic Council Advisory Committee and Senior Arctic Official meetings and organizing outreach activities to engage young Northerners in work of the Arctic Council. For further information on your new role, please refer to the attached document, *Expectations of Canadian Arctic Council Interns and the Roles and Responsibilities of the Arctic Council Advisory Committee*.

With the newly developed Intern positions, this is the first time that there will be youth representation on the Canadian Delegation to the Arctic Council. I am confident that your contributions will be highly valued.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and wish you continued success in your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adèle Dion', written in a cursive style.

Adèle Dion
Senior Arctic Official, Canada
On behalf of the Arctic Council Advisory Committee