This Word module should be used for all taxonomic proposals.

Please complete **Part 1** and:

either **Part 3** for proposals to create new taxa or change existing taxa

or **Part 2** for proposals of a general nature.

Submit the completed Word module, together with the accompanying Excel module named in Part 3, to the appropriate ICTV Subcommittee Chair.

For guidance, see the notes written in blue, below, and the help notes in file Taxonomic\_Proposals\_Help\_2018.

**Part 1:** **TITLE, AUTHORS, etc**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Code assigned:** | ***2018.040B*** | | (to be completed by ICTV officers) |
| **Short title:** (e.g. “6 new species in the genus *Zetavirus”*)  **To create one (1) new genus, *Pikminvirus*, containing one (1) species in the family *Siphoviridae*** | | | |
|  | | | |
| **Author(s):** | | | |
| Andrew M. Kropinski, University of Guelph  Evelien M. Adriaenssens, University of Liverpool | | | |
| **Corresponding author with e-mail address:** | | | |
| Andrew M. Kropinski Phage.Canada@gmail.com | | | |
| **List the ICTV study group(s) that have seen this proposal:** | | | |
| A list of study groups and contacts is provided at <http://www.ictvonline.org/subcommittees.asp> . If in doubt, contact the appropriate subcommittee chair (there are six virus subcommittees: animal DNA and retroviruses, animal ssRNA-, animal ssRNA+, fungal and protist, plant, bacterial and archaeal) | | **Bacterial and Archaeal Viruses Subcommittee** | |
| **ICTV Study Group comments (if any) and response of the proposer:** | | | |
|  | | | |
|  | | | |
| Date first submitted to ICTV: | | | May 2018 |
| Date of this revision (if different to above): | | |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **ICTV-EC comments and response of the proposer:** |
|  |

**Part 2:** **NON-STANDARD**

Template for any proposal regarding ICTV procedures, rules or policy, not involving the creation of new taxonomy.

| **Text of proposal:** |
| --- |
|  |

**Part 3:** **PROPOSED TAXONOMY**

|  |
| --- |
| **Name of accompanying Excel module: 2018.040B.N.v1.Pikminvirus** |

The taxonomic changes you are proposing should be presented on an accompanying Excel module, 2017\_TP\_Template\_Excel\_module. Please enter the file name of the completed module in this box.

**Supporting material:**

| additional material in support of this proposal |
| --- |
| Please explain the reasons for the taxonomic changes you are proposing and provide evidence to support them. The following information should be provided, where relevant:   * **Species demarcation criteria**: Explain how new species differ from others in the genus and demonstrate that these differences meet the criteria previously established for demarcating between species. If no criteriahave previously been established, and if there will now be more than one species in the genus, please state the demarcation criteria you are proposing. * **Higher taxa**:   + There is no formal requirement to state demarcation criteria when proposing new genera or other higher taxa. However, a similar concept should apply in pursuit of a rational and consistent virus taxonomy.   + Please indicate the **origin of names** assigned to new taxa at genus level and above.   + For each new genus a **type species** must be designated to represent it. Please explain your choice. * **Supporting evidence**: The use of Figures and Tables is strongly recommended (note that copying from publications will require permission from the copyright holder). For phylogenetic analysis, try to provide a tree where branch length is related to genetic distance. |

**Species demarcation criteria** We have chosen 95% DNA sequence identity as the criterion for demarcation of species in this new genus. Each of the proposed species differs from the others with more than 5% at the DNA level as confirmed with the BLASTN algorithm.

**Source of the name of this taxon:** It is derived from the name of the first isolated member, Microbacterium phage Pikmin.

**History:** Lytic phage Pikmin was isolated in 2017 by Alexandra P McDonough (Pittsburgh, PA, USA) as part of the Phage Hunters Integrating Research and Education program using Microbacterium foliorum NRRL B-24224 SEA as the host bacterium. The genome is circularly permuted. This phage belongs to subcluster EA3 in The Actinobacteriophage Database.

**GenBank Summary:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Phage name | RefSeq No. | INSDC | Size (Kb) | GC% | Protein | tRNA |
| Pikmin | none | MG944218 | 39.31 | 61.3 | 59 | 0 |

Phages Pajaza and Casey should be considered as strains within this genus

**BLASTN homologs:** Three. Its relationship to other Microbacterium phages is illustrated in this neighbour joining tree generated using NCBI BLASTN. Though these phages constitute a high level taxon we choose not to create one at this time.



**Electron micrograph:** Electron micrograph of negatively stained Microbacterium phage Pikmin (http://phagesdb.org/phages/Pikmin/) - Limited permission was granted by The

Actinobacteriophages Database, funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, to use this

electron micrograph for this taxonomy proposal; it cannot be reused without permission of The

Actinobacteriophages Database.

****

**Phylogeny:** The phylogenetic tree was constructed, using phylogeny.fr, using the major capsid protein homologs of Pikmin and related phages.



| **References:** |
| --- |
| None |