

The Honorable Sheila Copps, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Canadian Heritage
15 Eddy Street, 12th floor
Hull, Quebec
K1A 0M5



Joe Howe

Re: Protecting Nahanni National Park Reserve

Dear Minister Copps:

As a Canadian who cares deeply about Canada's wild rivers and wilderness areas, I am writing to express my concern about the future of Nahanni National Park. I understand that this World Heritage Site is under threat from mining development within the South Nahanni watershed. I also understand that real opportunities exist to expand the protection of this area so that all future generations can experience the beauty of this northern river in its pristine state.

The risk to the ecological integrity of the Nahanni region from the Prairie Creek mine is too high for the Government of Canada to allow this mining development and project to proceed. Given Canada's international obligations to protect the Nahanni as a World Heritage Site, this mine must be stopped. I ask you to work hard to ensure that Nahanni National Park is expanded and protected so that we may all take pride and comfort knowing it will retain its pristine beauty and magnificent features for generations to come.

I look forward to your response on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Mahler
285 Brunel Road
Huntsville, Ont.
P1H 1R7

c.c.:

The Right Honourable Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada.

The Honorable Robert Nault, P.C., M.P., Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Mr Bob Woodley, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Land and WaterBoard.

Vern Chistensen, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society