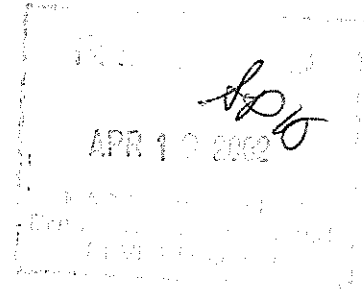


13 April 02

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

The Hon. Robert Nault, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
Room 407, West Block
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6



Re: Protecting Nahanni National Park Reserve

Dear Minister Copps & Minister Nault:

In 1997 I had the wonderful privilege of canoeing parts of the mighty Nahanni River. It was an experience I will never forget. My daughter enjoyed the same privilege last summer & I hope my grandchildren will someday enjoy it as well. This remote & awe-inspiring river should remain a treasured part of the heritage of every Canadian.

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,

Margaret M. Stanford
R.R. 1
Wellington, ON K0K 3L0

c.c.

The Right Honourable Jean Chretien,
Prime Minister of Canada,
Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0A6

Mr Bob Woodley,
Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
Box 2130, 7th Floor - 4910 50th Avenue,
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2P6

Vern Chistensen,
Executive Director
Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
Box 938, 200 Scotia Centre, (5102-50th Avenue),
Yellowknife, NT. X1A 2N7,

Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
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Becky Mason & Reid McLachlan
Chelsea, Quebec, Canada