

November 3, 2004

Concerned Band Members  
Nahanni Butte Dene Band  
General Delivery  
Nahanni Butte, NT  
X0E 0N0  
Attention: Ms. Jayne Konisenta

Dear Band Members:

**Re: Nahanni National Park Reserve Expansion**

Thank you for your letter dated August 31, 2004 to our Chairperson, Mr. Todd Burlingame. Mr. Burlingame asked that I reply to you directly. You had expressed concern regarding the proposed expansion of the Nahanni National Park Reserve (NNPR). You also pointed out the importance of having inclusive discussions about any proposed mine development in your area.

I would like to clarify that the expansion of a park boundary is not a development as defined in the Mackenzie Valley Resources Management Act and therefore would not be subject to referral for an environmental assessment. However, the proposed expanded drilling program for the Canadian Zinc mine near the NNPR boundary has been referred to the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board) for environmental assessment.

Details regarding the environmental assessment schedule and possible hearing locations will be announced in the near future once a complete project description is received from the developer. Your request that a community meeting be held in Nahanni Butte has been noted. We will ensure the Nahanni Butte Dene Band is advised once the schedule and hearing location(s), if any, are determined.

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The Nahanni Dene Band and its members are encouraged to participate in the environmental assessment of any proposed development. All interested parties are encouraged to provide any comments and advice it believes would be helpful to the Review Board in its decisions regarding a proposed project. Environmental assessments are designed to provide opportunities for public participation throughout the process.

The Review Board will consider all comments it receives very carefully when designing and implementing its environmental assessments and in deciding whether or not community hearings will be required.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the Board's attention.

Sincerely,



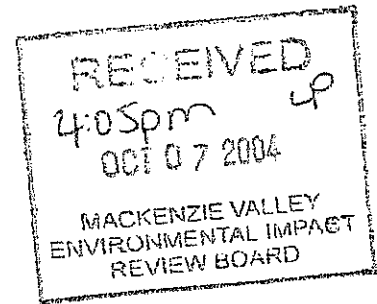
Vern Christensen  
Executive Director

cc. Honourable Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Minister of State, Northern  
Development  
Honourable Andy Scott, Minister, DIAND  
Heidi Weib, Deh Cho Land Use Planning



August 31, 2004

Mr. Todd Burlingame  
Chair, Mackenzie Valley  
Environmental Impact Review Board  
Box 938  
200 Scotia Centre  
Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N7



Concern Band Members  
General Delivery  
Nahanni Butte, NT  
X0E 0N0

Dear Sir/Madame:

There is a significant concern from the community, within Nahanni Butte with respect to the impact this proposed development "Park Expansion" would have on our Aboriginal Rights, for both the existing population and its future generations. Also Deh Cho land use planning was done in our community just a couple of families were there; major issue needs everyone's input. There's a huge land withdrawals done, it has to be looked at again in December.

The community does not understand once, land withdrawals are completed, digitized, it's the law it would stay that way for 5 years. The message is not delivered clearly to the community members. What do we do for jobs? There will be no Economic with park expansion and land withdrawals. We can't just sit back and let all this discussions be made by a few people. Of course we care about our land but we also have to think about our next generation what will they do? We can not have our young people to move away from their own home town to find work, when they can be helpful in our own community.

We would appreciate if you would have a community meeting in Nahanni Butte regarding this matter; it's our future which is being decided for us. We want everyone's input in the discussion about the mine, and expansion of Nahanni National Parks Reserve.

Sincerely, *Angie Hains*

Cc: Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Minister of State, Northern Development  
Andy Scott, Chair, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Hidi Weib, Deh Cho Land Use Planning

*Signatures on next page.  
Not supporting expansion of N.N.P.  
Land withdrawal still has to be discussed*

10/07/2004 THU 15:52 [TX/RX NO 6821]

Signature

Names

Jayne Konisenta

Jayne Konisenta

John Jeffrey

John Jeffrey

Ray Capot-Bian

Ray Capot-Bian

Makene Konisenta

Makene Konisenta

Rita Tesou

Rita Tesou

Tammy Matou

Tammy Matou

Violet Tesou

VIOLET TESOU

Eric Matou

ERIC MATOU

Jean Marie Konisenta

JEAN MARIE KONISENTE

John Paul Tonka

John Paul Tonka

Kathy Konisenta

Kathy Konisenta

Clytha Konisenta

Clytha Konisenta

Denise Konisenta

Denise Konisenta

Lena Matou

LENA MATOU

Angus Konisenta

Angus Konisenta

Doris Konisenta

Doris Konisenta

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Environmental Impact Review Board  
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Sincerely, *Angus Konisenta*

Cc: Ethel Blondin-Andrew, Minister of State, Northern Development  
Andy Scott, Chair, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board  
Hidi Weib, Deh Cho Land Use Planning

*Signatures on next page.*

*Not supending expansion of N.N.P.  
land withdrawal still has to be discussed.*

