

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Ralph Wiseman
Minister of Environment of
Newfoundland & Labrador
4th Floor, Confederation Building
West Block, P.O Box 8700
St. John's, NF
A1B 4J6

Dear Minister Wiseman,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

In these times of increased global cooperation in environmental protection and stewardship, Canada has participated in the development of a number of international agreements and treaties. The subject areas of these agreements include the prevention of global warming, the regulation of biotechnology and genetically modified organisms, the control of persistent organic pollutants, the prevention of ozone layer depletion, the protection of international waterways and the prevention of air pollution.

Before we see the benefits of these initiatives, they first must be implemented through appropriate domestic legislation. Because of Canada's constitutional division of powers, they must be implemented by the provincial and territorial governments in their areas of competence as well as by the Government of Canada.

We enclose a resolution approved by the CBA at its 2001 annual convention in Saskatoon this past August. The resolution calls for the federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement Canada's international environmental obligations in a timely and complete manner. This could be accomplished by identifying the international obligations which have yet to be implemented, consulting with your colleagues in the

federal government and other provinces and territories on the legislative options, drafting the appropriate statutory language, passing it through your legislatures and informing us when you have done so.

We thank you for the opportunity to address this important issue.

Yours truly,

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Eric Rice, Q.C.
President

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Peter Browne, President - Newfoundland Branch
Jason Bourgeois, Chair - Newfoundland Branch Environmental Law Section
Roxane Dean, Executive Director - Newfoundland Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. David Morse
Minister of Environment
of Nova Scotia
6th Floor, 5151 Terminal Road
P.O Box 2107
Halifax, NS
B3J 3B7

Dear Minister Morse,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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Eric Rice, Q.C.
President

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Brian A. Tabor, President - Nova Scotia Branch
Alison Davidson, Executive Director - Nova Scotia Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Chester Gillan
Minister of Fisheries, Aquaculture
and Environment of PEI
P.O Box 2000
11 Kent Street, 4th Floor
Charlottetown, PE
C1A 7N8

Dear Minister Gillan,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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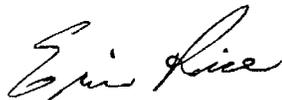
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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Alan C. Cheverie, President - Prince Edward Island Branch
Chris Brennan, Executive Director - Prince Edward Island Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Kim Jardine
Minister of Environment and
Local Government of NB
P.O Box 6000
20 McGloin Street, Marysville Place
Fredericton, NB
E2A 5T8

Dear Minister Jardine,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. J. Paul M. Harquail, President - New Brunswick Branch
Gene J. Devereux, Chair - New Brunswick Branch Environmental Law Section
Lia A. Daborn, Executive Director - New Brunswick Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Elizabeth Witmer
Minister of Environment
15th Floor, 135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1P5

Dear Minister Witmer,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. James F. O'Brien, President - Ontario Branch
Mimi Singh, Chair - Ontario Branch Environmental Law Section
Douglas H. Simpson, Executive Director - Ontario Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. David Anderson, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Environment
28th Floor, 10 Wellington Street
Hull, Québec
K1A 0H3

Dear Minister Anderson,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Oscar Lathlin
Minister of Conservation
Room 333, Legislative
Winnipeg, MB
R3C 0V8

Dear Minister Lathlin,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Wayne M. Onchulenko, President - Manitoba Branch
Nigel J. Thompson, Chair - Manitoba Branch Environmental Section
Stacy Nagle, Executive Director - Manitoba Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Buckley Belanger
Minister of Environment
& Resource Management
Room 346, Legislative Building
Regina, SK
S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Belanger,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

- cc. Barry H. Rossman, President - Saskatchewan Branch
Jonathan J. Kalmakoff, Chair - Saskatchewan Branch Environmental Law Section
Douglas Kosloski, Chair - Saskatchewan Branch Environmental Law Section
Brenda Hesje, Executive Director - Saskatchewan Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Lorne Taylor
Minister of Environment
Room 228, Legislature Building
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister Taylor,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Virginia A. Engel, President - Alberta Branch
Alastair R. Lucas, Chair - Alberta (Calgary) Branch Environmental Law Section
Stuart Chambers, Chair - Alberta (Edmonton) Branch Environmental Law Section
Terry Evenson, Executive Director - Alberta Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Joyce Murray
Minister of Water, Land
and Air Protection
Room 124, Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Dear Minister Murray,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

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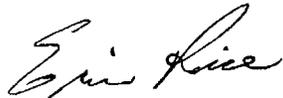
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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

- cc. Carman J. Overholt, President - BC Branch
R.M. Collett, Chair - BC Branch Environmental Law Section
Alison J. Taylor, Chair - BC Branch Environmental Law Section
Frank C. Kraemer, Executive Director - BC Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Jim Antoine
Minister of Resources, Wildlife
and Economic Development
Legislative Assembly, Floor 2
Box 1320
Yellowknife, NT
X1A 2L9

Dear Minister Antoine,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

- cc. Gregory C. Nearing, President - Northwest Territories Branch
Sheldon Toner, Chair - Northwest Territories Branch Environmental Law Section
Linda G. Whitford, Executive Director - Northwest Territories Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Dale Eftoda
Minister of Renewable Resources
2071-2nd Avenue
P.O. Box 2703
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 2C6

Dear Minister Eftoda,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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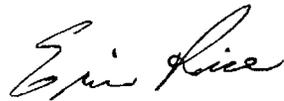
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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

cc. Bruce L. Willis, President - Yukon Branch
Darlene Bellamy, Executive Director - Yukon Branch

March 26, 2002

The Hon. Olayuk Akesuk
Minister of Sustainable Development
P.O. Box 2410
Iqaluit, Nunavut
X0A 0H0

Dear Minister Akesuk,

Re: Implementing International Environmental Obligations

On behalf of the Canadian Bar Association (CBA), an association of approximately 37,000 jurists from across the country, we urge your government to pass the necessary legislation to implement international environmental obligations in a timely and complete fashion. We also urge your government to co-operate with other levels of government in doing so.

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John D. Stefaniuk,
Chair, National Environmental
Law Section

**Implementation of
International
Environmental
Conventions**

**Mise en vigueur des
conventions
environnementales
internationales**

WHEREAS Canada is entering into an increasing number of international agreements addressing environmental issues which need timely implementation and enforcement of laws and regulations at all levels of government and cooperative arrangements between those governments;

ATTENDU QUE le Canada ratifie un nombre croissant d'ententes internationales portant sur des aspects environnementaux, qui nécessitent une mise en vigueur par la mise en oeuvre et l'application des promulgations, aux tous niveaux de gouvernement, et d'ententes intergouvernementales;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Canadian Bar Association urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement these international agreements in a timely and complete manner within their area of jurisdiction and in cooperation with other levels of government.

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU QUE L'Association du Barreau canadien exhorte les gouvernements fédéral, provinciaux et territoriaux à mettre en oeuvre ces ententes internationales en temps opportun et intégralement, dans les secteurs de leur compétence et en collaboration avec les autres niveaux de gouvernements.

Certified true copy of a resolution carried by the Council of the Canadian Bar Association at the Annual Meeting held in Saskatoon, SK, August 11-12, 2001.

Copie certifiée d'une résolution adoptée par le Conseil de l'Association du Barreau canadien, lors de son Assemblée annuelle, à Saskatoon, SK les 11 et 12 août 2001.



John D.V. Hoyles
Executive Director/Directeur exécutif