



THE PREMIER OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

OCT - 4 2010

The Honourable Celine Hervieux-Payette, P.C.
Senator
Senate of Canada
Centre Block – Room 585-S
Ottawa ON K1A 0A4

Dear Senator Hervieux-Payette:

Universal Declaration on the Ethical Harvest of Seals

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for your initiative to create the Universal Declaration on the Ethical Harvest of Seals. I commend you on the creation of the Declaration as well as your energy and persistence with related activities such as your successful Senate motion on December 14, 2009 to support the responsible and respectful raising, harvesting and use of animals for economic, personal and scientific purposes. I have also noted your efforts in visiting Nunavut, participating in a seal hunt and recently putting seal on the menu for a luncheon for your fellow parliamentarians.

The NWT has a long history of promoting and supporting the humane harvest of our wildlife resources by all hunters and trappers. At every opportunity our government and our legislature have supported harvesters by lobbying the federal government and other countries to maintain the fur industry, by implementing the Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards in Canada, by providing significant support to hunters and trappers through direct financial support as well as promotion of fur and other products of the land.

Wildlife in the NWT is managed through co-management boards created by Aboriginal comprehensive land claim agreements. Beneficiaries of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) are the primary harvesters of seals in the NWT. The Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC) and the Fisheries Joint Management Committee (FJMC) are the co-management bodies for seals established under the IFA.

Government of the Northwest Territories responsibility for fur and furbearers is shared by the Department of Industry, Tourism and Investment and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

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Thank you for your work on behalf of the seal industry in Canada.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Floyd K. Roland', is positioned above the printed name.

Floyd K. Roland

- c. Honourable J. Michael Miltenberger
Minister of Environment and Natural Resources

- Honourable Bob McLeod
Minister of Industry, Tourism and Investment

- Mr. Frank Pokiak, Chair, Inuvialuit Game Council