

August 22, 1977

The Honourable Mr. Justice Patrick Hartt
c/o The Supreme Court of Ontario
Osgoode Hall
Toronto, Ontario

Dear Mr. Justice Hartt:

Re: The Royal Commission on the Northern Environment

I am writing to you in support of a proposal submitted by the National Survival Institute. The Canadian Environmental Law Association believes that a conference of environmental, native, and other public interest groups would be of great value both to the Commission and to the public. At such a meeting, possible co-ordination of efforts could be discussed, issues clarified, and priorities established. We feel that such a conference would be of greatest value to everyone concerned if held prior to the preliminary hearings of the Commission.

I am aware of previous work done by the Survival Institute and by Ms. Olivastri; and I believe that the Survival Institute is capable of organizing such a conference efficiently. I have discussed with Ms. Olivastri the possibility of establishing a conference committee consisting of representatives of various public interest groups to assist the Survival Institute in organizing such a conference. It appears that this would be feasible and perhaps establish the basis for future broad-based co-ordination.

The proposal to prepare a booklet also appears to be of great utility. Of course, we are in support of the Commission providing financial support to assist any representative public interest group or special interest group in preparing submissions.

If we may be of assistance to the Commission, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

John Swaigen
Counsel
by