

June 30, 2016

Grand Chief Anastasia Qupee  
Innu Nation  
P.O. Box 119  
Sheshatshiu, NL A0P 1M0

Dear Grand Chief Qupee:

I write further to public commitments I made while in Happy Valley-Goose Bay to reconvene experts regarding the potential for methylmercury in Lake Melville associated with Muskrat Falls.

I acknowledge the Innu Nation's concerns and your call on my Government to re-assess mercury mitigation options. When I attended the rally in Happy Valley-Goose Bay on June 27, 2016, the concern of those in attendance was evident. People's health is of utmost importance and concerns with respect to the potential effects of methylmercury on people's health must be taken seriously while also considering the ecology of the reservoir.

I understand there are varying positions on how to address those concerns. Minister Trimper offered to reconvene the scientific experts from the March 2016 workshop and asked the Nunatsiavut Government to come to the table. I fully support this approach to reassess the issues related to methylmercury, specifically from a mitigation perspective.

Not only will we reconvene the experts from the March workshop, but we will expand the table, inviting the participation of additional provincial and federal government agencies, such as Environment and Climate Change Canada.

I am inviting the Innu Nation, NunatuKavut Community Council, and the Nunatsiavut Government, and their researchers and scientists, to participate in the discussion.

As you are aware, timing is critical and as such the Department of Environment and Conservation will be convening this workshop on July 27, 2016, in Happy Valley-Goose Bay. Today, I ask for your commitment to participate in this discussion, so that we can find a way forward that protects the health of your members and all people of Labrador.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dwight Ball", with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

**DWIGHT BALL**

Premier

MHA, Humber-Gros Morne

cc: Grand Chief Anastasia Qupee, Innu Nation  
President Todd Russell, NunatuKavut Community Council  
The Honourable Perry Trimper, Minister of Environment and Conservation