

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Office of the Premier

June 30, 2016

Mr. Johannes Lampe Nunatsiavut Government P.O. Box 70 Nain, NL A0P 1L0

Dear President Lampe:

I write further to our meeting on June 26, 2016, and public commitments I made to reconvene experts regarding the potential for methylmercury in Lake Melville associated with Muskrat Falls.

From our discussion, I recognize your continued concerns for the health of your beneficiaries. 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.

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 Nunatsiavut Government, Innu Nation and NunatuKavut Community Council, 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 beneficiaries and all people of Labrador.

Sincerely,

-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