

June 30, 2016

Mr. Todd Russell, President
NunatuKavut Community Council
P.O. Box 460, Stn "C"
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1C0

Dear President Russell:

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 members. 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 NunatuKavut Community Council, the Nunatsiavut Government, and Innu Nation 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 long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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