

August __, 2007

The Honourable John Baird
Minister of the Environment
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
10 Wellington Street, 28th Floor
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0H3

Dear Minister Baird:

I am writing to you out of concern for the future of the Habitat Conservation Stamp program and Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC), a valued member of Canada's wildlife habitat conservation community.

WHC has invested wisely the funding from waterfowl hunters and Stamp collectors, in habitat conservation projects across Canada. The funding has been a real catalyst, enabling hundreds of projects at the community level for the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat.

WHC has been a leader in the stewardship movement, providing cost-effective services to the conservation community and has helped build capacity for environmental organizations across Canada.

Canadians have a heightened concern for conservation and environmental issues, including habitat conservation. WHC is playing a significant role in addressing these concerns. Why is your government even considering making it more difficult to respond to these challenges by removing an important player in habitat conservation?

In short, WHC is a valued member of the conservation community, and I strongly recommend continued support from Environment Canada for the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program and WHC.

I look forward to the new Government's response to this pressing matter and hope that it can be resolved promptly while addressing the best interests of the Canadian public, the conservation community, and wildlife habitat in Canada.

Sincerely,