

4 April 2005

Dear Representative of the Canadian People:

I wish to voice my strong support for the Canadian Governments position on sealing. You may well think this is an internal Canadian issue, but I assure you it is not.

Canada has, by allowing seal harvesting to resume, expressed its support for the wise and sustainable use of natural resources. This is a very international issue. Across the world well thought out, responsible and sustainable programs to utilise wildlife and fish resources are under attack from radical organisation driven by urban based animal liberation bodies who have lost all contact with the earth and its systems.

Some of these organisations such as IFAW have threatened your fisheries industries with damaging boycotts unless the seal harvest is stopped. Please do not even think of giving into them or engaging in dialogue with them. They are not driven by ecologists who understand resource sustainability. They are driven by people who have become so obsessed with an ideal of a world in which no animal suffers any stress that they have forgotten about natural systems. I'm sure you would love to live your life without stress, so too would every wild animal. But such lives are simply not a plausible reality.

The Canadian seal harvest is ecologically sustainable, wise and humane. Your government has put in extensive controls to ensure this is the case. It represents a good model of the type of sustainable wildlife utilisation the United Nations peak environmental management body, the IUCN, has desperately been urging nations to undertake for decades.

The same organisations which are attacking Canada for harvesting seals also attempt to target other nations for similar sustainable use programs. Their efforts greatly harm nature conservation programs across the world. Any 'wins' they achieve, perceived or otherwise, only increase their credibility and support. Hence I urge you to give them no ground and not even do them the compliment of engaging them in dialogue. Even that is a 'win; they do not deserve.

Yours Sincerely

John Kelly

Executive Officer

Kangaroo Industries Association of Australia

PO Box 447, Woden, 2606

ph (03) 6326 8639

fax (03) 6326 2790

Email kiaa@bigpond.net.au

website <http://www.kangaroo-industry.asn.au>