October 13, 2008

Alistair MacDonald Environmental Assessment Officer Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board Yellowknife, NT.

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Mr. MacDonald,

Re: Canadian Zinc Corporation, Prairie Creek Mine - EA0809-002 (2008)

Thank you for visiting the Deh Cho Region to allow us our input and hearing the assessment procedure for this very important industry driven development project in the Deh Cho.

During your scoping session you asked for input on four questions

1. What biophysical, socio-economic and cultural issues should be considered during the environmental assessment and why?

The re-opening of the Prairie Creek Mine will create up to 220 jobs as well as creating an additional 200 + support and spin-off jobs, this an exciting prospect for the community of Fort Simpson. Stable, long term private sector employment in the Deh Cho will have substantial economic benefits. Small communities will have an economy based on private enterprise rather that a government supported economy. This project will help the Deh Cho contribute to the economy of the NWT, rather than be a have-not region. Our region has minimal non-government employment. We are almost completely supported through government employment and a government service center.

2. What physical works and activities should be considered during this environmental assessment (in other words, what is the scope for the proposed development)?

Other than looking at the improvements new technology and better production methods I do not see any new questions to ask. Removing the cyanide from the mine site is of great environmental importance

3. What are the appropriate time periods and distances from the development for consideration of potential impacts?

Canadian Zinc is hoping to begin construction using the winter access road which has permits in place during the winter of 2009/10. In order to meet this timetable the MVEIRB will need to finalize their review and assessment report in the spring of 2009. The VEIRB should be more responsive to the needs of business rather than operating at the convenience of government.

4. What evidence from previous studies, management plans or environmental assessments should be moved onto the public record for this environmental assessment and why?

There have been 6 previous Review Board Environmental Assessments of this existing mine, mine access, and drilling program since startup and during the years of limited activity at the mine site. All of this information should be used as well as any other studies, plans, etc. There is no need to re-ask and re-answer all the same questions. All of which seem to be answered satisfactorily

Kirby Groat

President – Fort Simpson Chamber of Commerce

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