



NAHANNI BUTTE DENE BAND

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL – justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

October 2, 2017

The Rt. Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON, K1A 0A2

Re: Proposed all-season access road operating on Nahanni Butte Traditional Lands and within Nahanni National Park Reserve.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister Trudeau,

Further to our letter dated September 29th 2016, we wish to highlight we have patiently waited for a response from the Federal Government to assist us in finalizing a land use agreement with Canadian Zinc Corporation for the development of an all-season road on Indigenous Affairs Branch (IAB) Lands set aside for the community of Nahanni Butte.

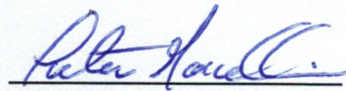
We have also continually notified officials from the Federal and Territorial governments of our desire to maintain a cooperative working relationship by expanding the boundaries of our IAB Lands to cover the full corridor of the proposed all-season road from the Liard Highway 7 to the Prairie Creek Mine, a distance of approximately 184 km.

Recently, the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board gave conditional approval of the proposed all-season road **without** the specific condition of ensuring there is a land use agreement with the Band covering the road corridor on our IAB Lands and Nahanni National Park Reserve. We trust you will empathize with our frustration over an imposed regulatory regime that appears to move forward without acknowledging the land jurisdictional rights of the Band.

We therefore appeal to your office to direct officials at INAC to engage directly with us to ensure our Indigenous rights are respected before the Review Board proceeds any further with the Environmental Assessment of the proposed all-season road. Furthermore, we need to finalize a co-management agreement with Parks Canada on commercial development proposed within the boundaries of the Nahanni National Park Reserve. Such agreement must be with the Band who has been given authority via Band Council Resolution to represent the community's interest having withdrawn participation in Park Canada's Consensus Team after their failure to properly consult with the community.

Looking forward to your consideration and appreciate if your office could respond by return email.

Sincerely,



Chief Peter Marcellais

CC: The Honourable Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada

Katherine Koostachin, Senior Policy Advisor, Indigenous Relations and Regulatory Affairs, Office of the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Canada

Daniel Watson, Chief Executive Officer, Parks Canada

Alan Taylor, COO, Canadian Zinc Corporation

Mark Cliffe-Phillips, Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Review Board

Attachments: NBDB Chief letter to PM Justin Trudeau, Sept29/16

NBDB Chief letter to PM Justin Trudeau, Jan22/16

NBDB Chief letter to Minister McKenna and PC, Mar20/17