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June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Mr. Jake Stewart, M.L.A.  
Legislative Building, Centre Block  
P.O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 5H1  
Canada

Dear Mister Chairperson Stewart and Members of the Standing Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship,

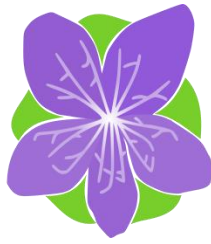
We, the undersigned, are representatives of community groups and non-profit organizations, as well as private citizens from throughout the province, all with long-standing interests and concerns regarding the spraying of glyphosate-based herbicides. As another forest spraying season begins in New Brunswick, we write to you today to express our collective opposition to this practice.

Glyphosate-based herbicides are simply not needed. As you know, they are designed to kill hardwoods and plants in our forest, which we need to provide both food and habitat for wildlife. Furthermore, glyphosate, the active ingredient in the herbicides used in New Brunswick Crown forest silviculture, was labeled a "probable human carcinogen" by the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer in 2015. Replacing the use of herbicides in Crown forest with thinning crews of people, as Quebec has done since 2001, would not only protect human health, but also ensure more jobs from our forest resource.

A lot of New Brunswickers clearly agree. Over 33,000 of them signed petitions tabled in the N.B. Legislature and a growing alliance of over 30 groups are working to ban the practice.

The Acadian forest has been listed as one of six endangered forests in North America. New Brunswick makes up a large portion of the Acadian forest. Ensuring that the Acadian forest is properly managed here in New Brunswick is key to maintaining this unique forest region.

Crown forest management must consider first and foremost adequate habitat for wildlife, protection for streams and rivers, climate change impacts and forest diversity in terms of age and species. New Brunswickers have repeatedly expressed a desire for changes in the way our Crown forest is managed, including scaling back on allowable clear cut size and eliminating aerial spraying. The people of the province want to save animal populations decimated by overcutting, stop the damage to our rivers and lakes, and diversify our forest-based economy.



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You will remember that six years ago the provincial auditor recommended that the Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development reduce the amount of Crown land harvested by clear-cut, to bring practices in line with the government's 2012 forest management plan.

“Clearcut[ting] is running consistently around 80 per cent, whereas in the area of selective or partial cut, there is a decline from 20 per cent to roughly 10 per cent in more recent years,” Kim Adair-MacPherson told MLAs and reporters upon releasing the 2015 report.

Back then, she noted that the department had ignored numerous studies and recommendations calling for a reduction of clearcutting on Crown land. Her report said that selective and partial cutting methods are recognized as best management practices because they also serve to protect waterways, wildlife habitat, and preserve a healthy range of plant and animal life in the woods.

MacPherson's 2015 audit also determined that the province lost money on its Crown forest resource to the tune of \$7- to \$10-million between the audit period of 2009-2014. She named the silviculture program and the licensing payments the provincial government gives to industry for doing the silviculture work in Crown forests as the two main contributors to the annual forest deficit.

As the Committee on Climate Change and Environmental Stewardship meets this month, we ask that you support a ban on spraying glyphosates and other herbicides in Crown forestry in New Brunswick.

Yours sincerely,

**Stop Spraying NB**

*Caroline Lubbe-D'Arcy, Chair; Spraying Caucus Chair*

**EcoVie**

*Francine Levesque, Spokesperson; Spraying Caucus Member*

**Public for the Protection of the Forests of New Brunswick**

*Roger Babin, Spokesperson; Spraying Caucus Member*

**Conservation Council of New Brunswick**

*Lois Corbett, Executive Director*

**Université de Moncton**

*Elise Mayrand, Alain Patoine, & Jolaine Arseneau, Professor, Professor, & Researcher*

**Vision H2O**

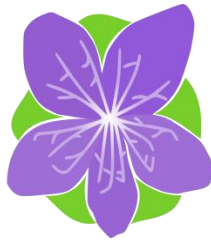
*Julie Cormier, Executive Director*

**Sierra Club Atlantic Canada Chapter**

*Tynette Deveaux, Communications Coordinator*

**New Brunswick Anti-Shale Gas Alliance**

*Roy Ries & Jim Emberger, Chair & Spokesperson*



**Sentinelles Petitcodiac Riverkeeper**  
*Monique Arseneault, Board Member*

**Council of Canadians – Kent County Chapter**  
*Debbie Hopper, Chairperson*

**Hammond River Angling Association**  
*Sarah Blenis, Project Coordinator and Environmental Educator*

**Tobique Watershed Association**  
*Lee Reed, Chair*

**Nashwaak Watershed Association**  
*Marieka Chaplin, Executive Director*

**Penniac Anti-Shale Gas Organization**  
*Armand A. Paul, Spokesperson*

**Sustainable Energy Group**  
*Sam Arnold, Representative*

**Friends of Mount Carleton**  
*Terry Sisson, Secretary & Treasurer*

**Tabusintac Watershed Association**  
*Billie-Joe Fowler, Executive Director*

**The Knowlesville Art & Nature Centre**  
*Jenna Ross, Administrative Assistant*

**The Coalition for Responsible Energy Development – New Brunswick**  
*Gail Wylie, Representative*

**Bassins Versants de la Baie des Chaleurs**  
*Yannick Thériault, Project Coordinator*

**The Red Dot Association of Shediac Bay**  
*Tim Borlase, President*

**Imaginons la Péninsule acadienne autrement**  
*Lucille Doiron, Executive Director*

**Community Forests International**  
*Monica Allaby, Communications Coordinator*

**Council of Canadians – Saint John Chapter**  
*Leticia Adair & Christopher Reibling, Chapter Contacts*

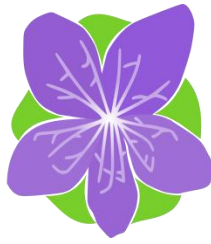
**Water & Environmental Protection for Albert County**  
*Deborah Carr, Spokesperson*

**Standing for Water**  
*Peggy Woolsey, Spokesperson*

**EOS Eco-Energy**  
*Amanda J. Marlin, Executive Director*

**Council of Canadians – Fredericton Chapter**  
*Jean Louis Deveau & Gary Guild, Chairperson & Spokesperson*

**Leap4ward**  
*Pamela Ross, Standing Committee Member*



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**CC:**

**Mr. Bill Hogan**, MLA Carleton and Committee Vice-Chair, [bill.hogan@gnb.ca](mailto:bill.hogan@gnb.ca)

**Hon. Mike Holland**, Minister of Natural Resources and Energy Development,  
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**Hon. Margaret Johnson**, Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries,  
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**Hon. Gary Crossman**, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, [gary.crossman@gnb.ca](mailto:gary.crossman@gnb.ca)

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