



Quinte Field Naturalists

The Quinte Field Naturalists Association is affiliated with Ontario Nature, a non-profit organization sponsoring nature education, conservation and research.

February 5th, 2020

Dear Minister Bill Morneau:

The Quinte Field Naturalist Association, a member organization of Ontario Nature, strongly encourages the Government of Canada to reach its commitment of protecting 17 per cent of land and freshwater by the end of 2020, 25 per cent by 2025 and 30 per cent by 2030. We urge you and the other Members of Parliament to support a budget investment plan to achieve these targets by putting 900 million dollars into the upcoming 2020-2021 budget priorities. Furthermore, we strongly encourage Canada to show international leadership at the United Nations this year by encouraging all countries to adopt these goals for protected areas.

Protection of these lands and waters will be a vital investment in both our future and the future of the planet. This commitment will protect biodiversity, will help greatly to mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon in forests and other ecosystems and will save ecosystems of many types that deliver essential ecological services such as groundwater storage. In addition, it will protect species at risk, like the Caribou, a keystone species of the Tundra and the Boreal Forest. Action now will give Canada resiliency and a bright hope for the future. 900 million dollars spent on the preservation of our lands and waters is 900 million dollars well spent, a tremendous investment for our wonderful country and a shining example for all countries.

We request your support in helping the Government to achieve these very necessary goals.

Sincerely,

George Thomson
President, Quinte Field Naturalists

Cc: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Jonathan Wilkinson
MP Derek Sloan
MP Neil Ellis